



# PLAYING TOGETHER



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Translation: B S Walia



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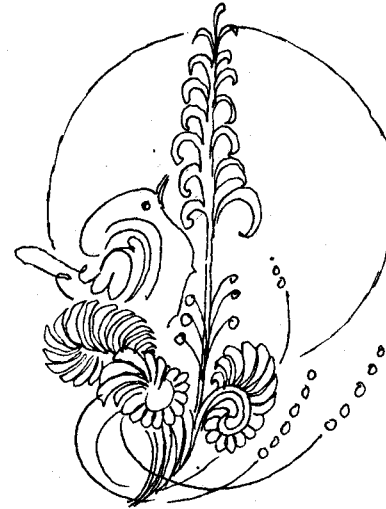
*Nehru Bal Pustakalaya*

# PLAYING TOGETHER

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**NATIONAL BOOK TRUST, INDIA**

## Foreword

*Dedicated to children all over the world*

The book *Playing Together* is really like a toy through the medium of which, our children can learn, and also gain a lot of knowledge while indulging in playful activity.

The idea of such a word puzzle first dawned on famous Hindi poet and my husband, the late Bharat Bhushan Aggarwal. Some of his word puzzles had been published earlier too. Subsequently, I made a lot of additions.

In these word puzzles, mostly those items have been included which we come across generally and which are related to our day-to-day life.

Along with the word puzzles and their solutions, the words appearing therein have also been explained. This information will help locate the right words and assist in their proper usage while filling in the blank spaces of the puzzles. Not only this, it will enhance the knowledge of children and also help them learn various tales and phrases associated with the words.

It is easy to solve these puzzles. Each word begins with an arrow '↓' or '→'. But at some places the words move down below as also towards the right. In such a situation, two arrows—'↓→'—have been given.

It is hoped that this book on word puzzles, one of its kind, besides being extremely interesting and mentally challenging, will be loved by children.

New Delhi

Bindu Aggarwal

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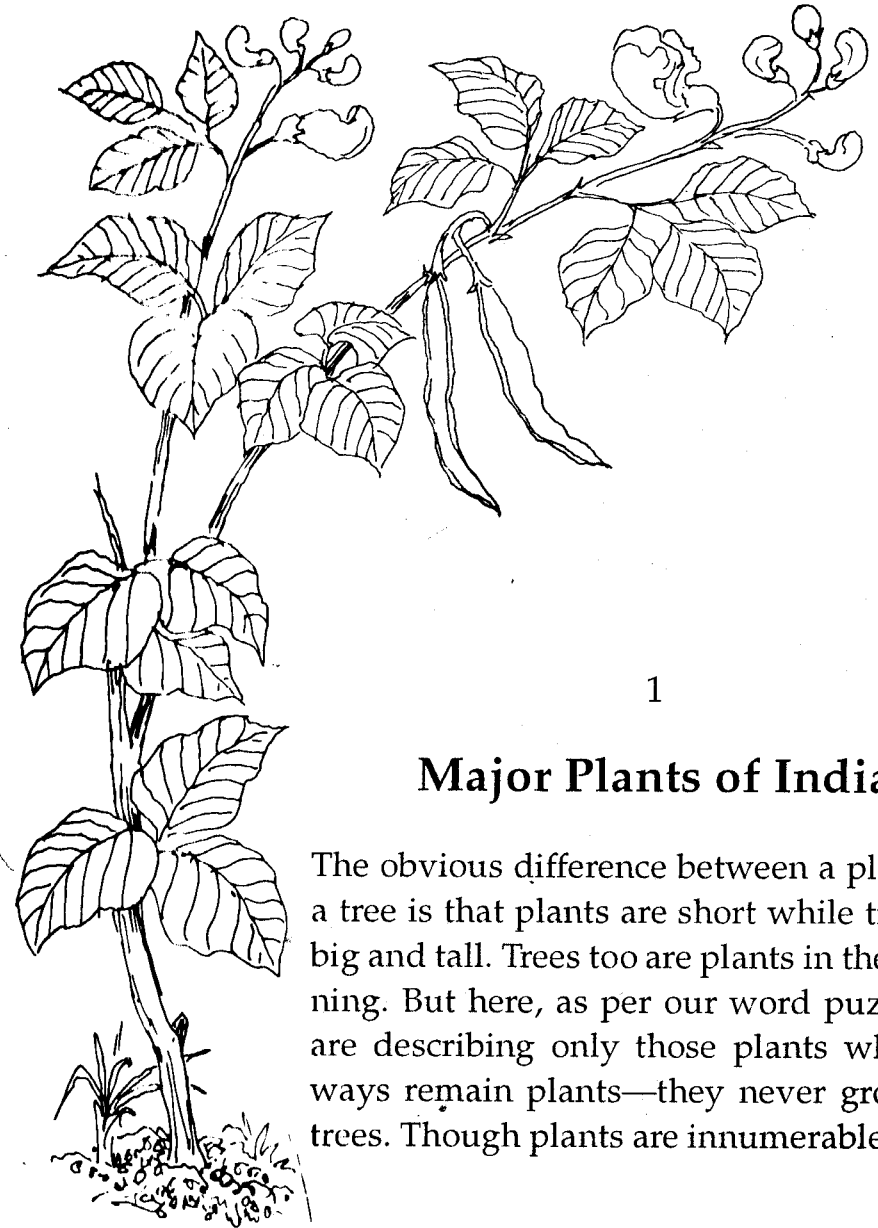
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## Major Plants of India

The obvious difference between a plant and a tree is that plants are short while trees are big and tall. Trees too are plants in the beginning. But here, as per our word puzzle, we are describing only those plants which always remain plants—they never grow into trees. Though plants are innumerable, in our



word puzzle (Major Plants of India), mostly those plants are described which relate to our day-to-day life.

Just as the large plants are called trees, the very small ones are called herbs. Plants, which thrive by taking the support of each other, such that it is difficult to separate them, are called shrubs.

Plants have different shapes and their leaves too are of various kinds. These two characteristics put together help identify the nature of a plant.

The seeds of some plants like pigeon-pea, gram, urad-bean are eaten. Gram-flour is made out of gram. In the same manner, barley, wheat, paddy, millet and sprouts of barley are also ground into flour and eaten. Linseed, castor and mustard oil are used frequently.

Cotton is used for making cotton clothes. Carpets, bags and door-mats, etc. are made out of jute or flex.

Brinjal, peas, tomatoes, chillies, etc. are those vegetables which constitute a part of our daily meal. The mint plant is very small. It needs a lot of water. It is used for making chutney. Its consumption is extremely useful during the hot summer days.



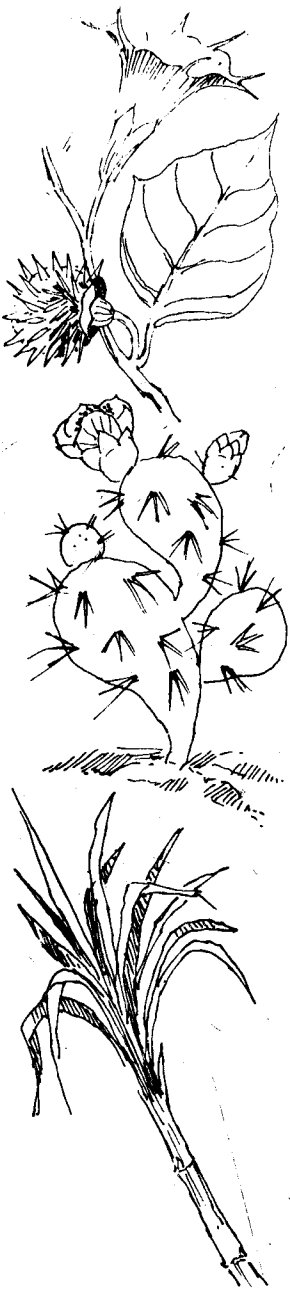
The mystle plant is a bushy one. Its leaves leave behind a reddish colour. So, women dry out these leaves, powder them and apply the paste prepared with water to their hands and feet.

Saffron with its red and yellow colour is like the pollen of flowers. The saffron of Kashmir is very popular. Apart from Kashmir, it also grows in South India. Saffron is ground with water into a paste to apply as *tilak* on idols and deities. Religious persons (who believe in rituals) also apply this *tilak* on their own foreheads. In good quality sweets, saffron is used to impart fragrance and colour.

Belladonna leaves, angular and betel-like in shape, are soft and its fruit is round like an apple. The leaves have tiny, soft thorns over them. The fruit and seeds are very poisonous and intoxicating. The belladonna fruit is used as an offering to Lord Shiva.

Basil is of two kinds—green and black. Both are considered sacred and very useful. • Basil is also used as a medicine.

Prickly-amarnath is a well-known plant which has no branches, but it has snakehood-like thick pulpy folds sprouting over one another. These folds are covered with thorns and hence are used for fencing.



Sugarcane, in comparison to other plants, is much taller. Its stem is used for chewing, and after peeling it off and cutting it into pieces, *ganderi* (small cylindrical pieces) is made. Sugarcane juice is used as a refreshing drink. But its maximum use in India is in preparation of jaggery and sugar.

## 1. Major Plants of India

x	↓P									x	x	x	↓B	x	↓S
x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	
x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	→B		↓S			x	
x	→C						x	x	x	x		x		x	
x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x		x	
x	→L							x	x	x		x		x	
x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x		x	
x		x	x	x	x	→F				x		x		x	
x	→M				x	x	x	x	x	x		x		x	
x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
x		x	↓M	x	x	x	↓T	x	x	x	x	x	↓P	x	↓C
x		x		x	x	x		x	x	x	↓B	x		x	
x		x		x	x	x	→M							x	
x		x		x	↓M	x		x	x	x		x		x	
→C						x		x	x	x		x		x	
x	x	x		x		x		x	↓W	x		x	x	x	
x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x		x		x	↓G	x	x
x	x	→J				x	x	x		x	x	x		x	x
x	x	x	x	x		x	→U								x
x	→P				x	x	x	x		x	x	x		x	x

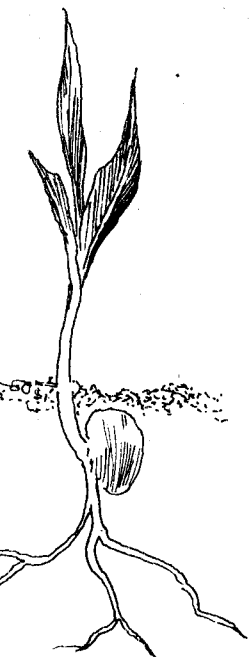
23 Plants



2

## Major Trees of India

Our scientists have proved that plants and trees too have life. They also consume food, breathe, talk, sleep and experience pain and pleasure. As we all know, there is dire need of sunlight, air and water for plants and trees. After the seed is sown, it germinates and turns into a plant with the help of sunlight, air and water. This plant grows gradually to take the form of a tree. But every plant does not grow into a tree. It depends on the nature and special characteristic of a plant



whether it will turn into a tree or not. Not only this, if a plant does not receive regular sunlight, air and water, it withers.

There are many kinds of fruits and flowering trees in our country. These trees have great importance in our daily, cultural and religious life. They play a significant role in keeping our environment pure and in preventing floods.

Cedar (known as *deodar* in India) is a well known, tall tree with a straight trunk. Its rugged branches and pointed leaves are a bit longish and spherical. The tree is so tall that from afar, it appears to be touching the sky. This is a hilly tree. It is said that Lord Shiva chose this tree to meditate under. Its wood is strong but light and fragrant. It is used as timber in constructing houses.

Other trees whose wood is used as timber are mainly teak, *sisam*, pine and *kail*. Teak is also called *sal* tree. The woods of *sisam* and teak are so beautiful and strong that they are used for making tables, chairs and other furniture items. This wood is very expensive. In comparison, the wood of *kail* is cheap and light.

Pinewood is smooth and soft. Apart from timber, this wood is used for making chests



and boxes; in fact this wood is mainly used for making boxes. Oil, which is famous by the name of turpentine oil, is extracted from this wood. Resin (a gum) is also extracted from this wood.

Mimosa, like *sisam*, is a tall and large tree. *Chinar* is also a kind of big tree. Cypress is a kind of straight and conical tree, which is usually planted to add beauty to a garden.

The leaves of *asoka* are fragmented. It is said that when Sita had to live in Ravana's Lanka, she would remain seated under the *asoka* tree. This tree is considered highly propitious. Therefore, on auspicious occasions, festoons are made of its leaves and used for worship.



Banyan, a variety of *pipal*, is a massive tree. Its peculiarity lies in its fibrous branches which thrust deep down into the earth below, to turn into roots, and new branches sprout from these roots. This way, the tree covers a lot of ground. The banyan trees of Botanical Gardens in Kolkata and of Kalakshetra in Chennai are very famous. In the Delhi Zoo too, the fibrous growth of banyan trees has been moulded in such a beautiful manner with the help of bamboos that it is worth watching. This tree is called *baddh* or *bat* tree in India. It is regarded as a







holy tree from a religious view point. The famous story of 'Satyavan and Savitri' is associated with this tree.

*Pipal* tree of banyan variety, is also a large tree. It is found nearly all over India. The betel tree is an evergreen tree. Gum and at some places vinegar is extracted from it. Wild fig of *pipal* family is a large tree from whose branches oozes out a sap-like liquid and its fruit is eaten for its medicinal and vegetative properties.

Wood-apple tree is a well-known tree which has a white trunk and its branches have thorns. It is regarded so propitious that its three leaves joined together, called *belpatra*, are used as an offering to Lord Shiva. The pulp of its round fruit helps heal stomach related ailments. During summer, its pulp is used to make a refreshing drink.

Date is a palm tree, found primarily in deserts. It bears a plum-shaped, longish and sweet fruit which is tasty besides being useful for the stomach.

Coconut too is a date-like tree. It is found on the sea beaches and the surrounding land. Its fruit is regarded so auspicious by the Hindus that they use it on every propitious occasion.



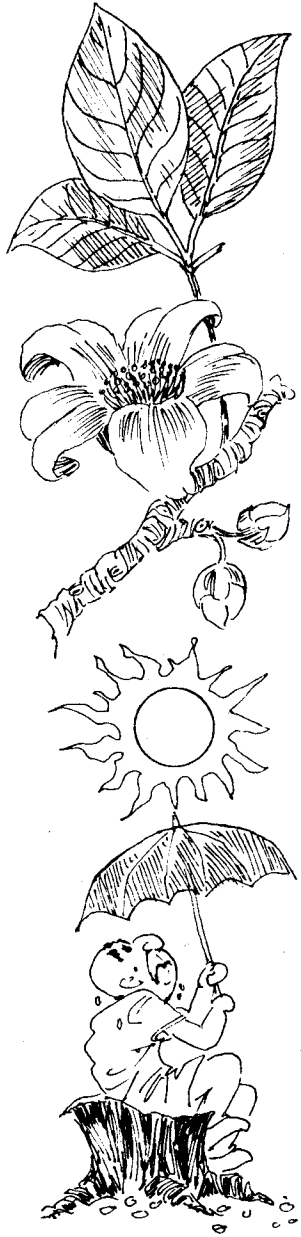
Acacia is a well-known thorny tree. Its thin branches are used as a tooth-brush.

The margosa tree, due to its inherent characteristic of purifying the surrounding air, is a well-known and popular tree of India. It can be seen everywhere. Its leaves are small and its berries, which are pale yellow, are called *nimboli*. Every part of this tree is bitter to taste and used in various kinds of medicines. Due to its properties as a disinfectant, its oil is gaining fame in the country and abroad.

Tamarind is very dear to children due to its sour taste. People in the south use tamarind practically in every dish. It is a big tree with very tiny, little leaves.

*Karil* is a kind of thorny bush which has no leaves. Silk-cotton is a large tree. Its fruit bears out a smooth, soft and good quality cotton. Its cotton is used for making pillows and cushions as well.

Sandalwood is a well known South Indian tree, found especially in Karnataka. It grows particularly in and around the Malai range of mountains. Sandalwood is very fragrant. That is why, the breeze blowing over the Malai range spreads a sweet, cool and gentle aroma of sandalwood.

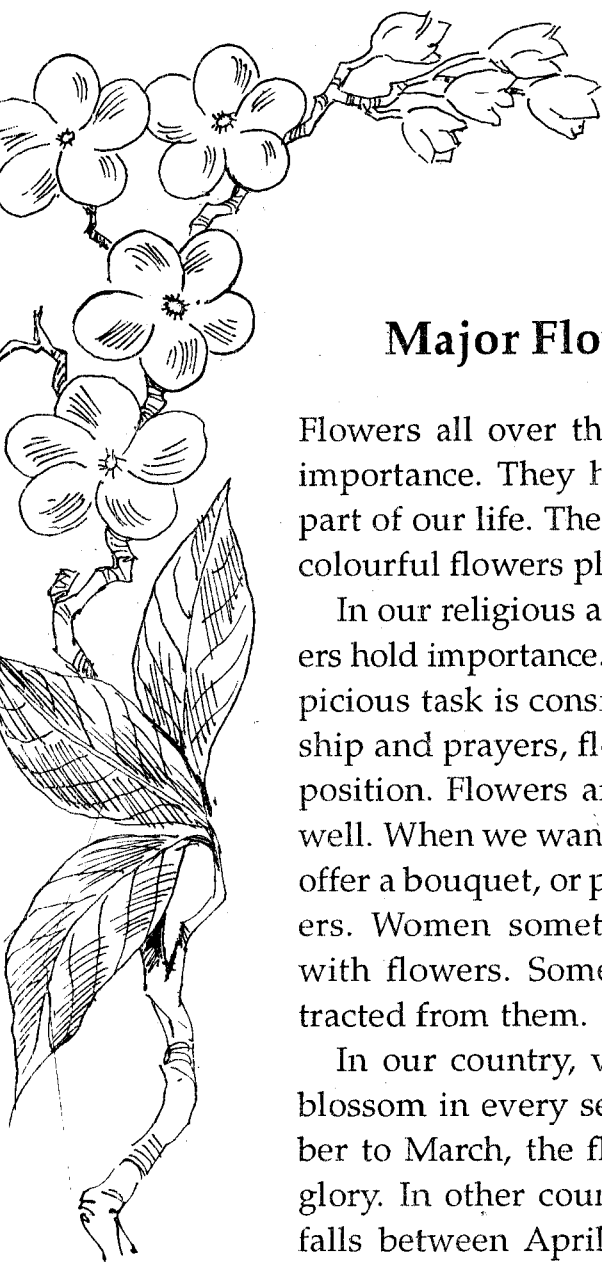


Therefore, trees as we have seen, play a very important role in our lives. But it is sad that due to the increase in population and rise in industrialisation, many trees are being cut down. This amounts to loss of fruits and flowers, shade, healthy environment, timber, medicine and rains. It is also fatal for our wild-life. Hence, we should endeavour to protect them against being felled by poachers.

## 2. Major Trees of India

x	→ B						x	x	x	x	↓ S
x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	
→ P				x	x	x	x	x	↓ M	x	
x	x	x	x	→ T			↓ A				
x	x	↓ S	x	x	x	x		x		x	
x	→ P					x		x		x	
↓ A	x		x	x	x	x		x		x	
	x		x	x	x	x		x		x	
	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	
	x	x	x	→ P							
	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
	x	→ D				x	x	→ T			↓ K
x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	
→ S				↓ C						x	
x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	
x	x	x	x	→ C							x
x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x
x	x	x	x		x	x	→ C				
x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x
→ P								x	x	x	x

18 Trees



3

## Major Flowers of India

Flowers all over the world are given great importance. They have become an integral part of our life. The fragrance and beauty of colourful flowers pleases us all.

In our religious and cultural life too flowers hold importance. Without flowers, no auspicious task is considered complete. In worship and prayers, flowers occupy an exalted position. Flowers are symbols of honour as well. When we want to honour someone, we offer a bouquet, or present a garland of flowers. Women sometimes adorn themselves with flowers. Some perfumes also are extracted from them.

In our country, various kinds of flowers blossom in every season, but from November to March, the flowering season is at its glory. In other countries, the spring season falls between April and June while in our



land, spring season starts in January extending to March.

Various kinds of colourful and mildly fragrant flowers like magnolia, *juhi*, *madhumalti*, *bel*, *mogra*, *motia*, rose, jasmine, *harsingar*, lotus, marigold, nightqueen, tube rose, *gulmohar*, *vakul*, pandanus, narcissus, *mahua*, chrysanthemum, sunflower, safflower, oleander, lily, *asoka*, *kadamb*, *sefali* are found in our country.

Lotus is our national flower. Its characteristic is that even though it grows in slush (mud), it looks very fresh and clean. The lotus may be of different colours but white, light pink and yellow are most commonly seen.

Then, there is the blue lotus or *kamal*. It is considered to be very propitious. Goddess Lakshmi is supposed to dwell on it. It is believed that the lotus flower originated from Lord Vishnu's navel. Due to its beauty, various parts of Lord Vishnu's body are often described as beautiful as the flower—*kamalnayan*, *charn-kamal*, etc. The seeds of lotus, called *kamalgatta*, are offered to Lord Vishnu. The stem of lotus is called lotus stalk, or *kamal-kakri*, is cooked and eaten as a vegetable.

Second to lotus is the rose, another very



important flower in India. Normally the Indian rose is pink and red and has a very strong fragrance. Noorjehan was very fond of the rose. It was she who discovered the rose perfume. A treadle is made from the extract of red and pink petals of rose known as *gulkand* (used in eating with the betel leaf). There are as many as 250 to 300 varieties of roses. In an interesting parable about the presence of rose, it is said that when a goddess fell-out with Venus, the goddess of love, she decided to create something more beautiful than Venus so as to belittle her. Thus originated the rose.

About *harsingar* too, it is said that Lord Krishna brought this flower from the heavens for his wife Satyabhama.

Flowers like *harsingar*, magnolia, jasmine, narcissus, *juhi*, *sefali*, are white and yellow in colour. Bright red *gulmohar* blossoms even in the scorching heat of Indian summer.

*Night Queen* and tube rose emit fragrance only at night. *Motia*, *mogra*, and *bela* are flowers from the same family and blossom in summer, spreading their fragrance in the early morning hours. These flowers carry a hue of refreshing whiteness in their colour.



An important characteristic of the sunflower is that it always faces the sun. Its petals are invariably yellow in colour with the inner part somewhat dark-brown.

The *tesu* flower is also known as *palas*. Its flowers are dark red in colour and crescent-shaped. During the Holi festival, women soak and boil the *tesu* flowers in water to extract the yellow colour for playing Holi. Its dry malleable leaves are used for making leaf cups, leaf plates and *bidis*.

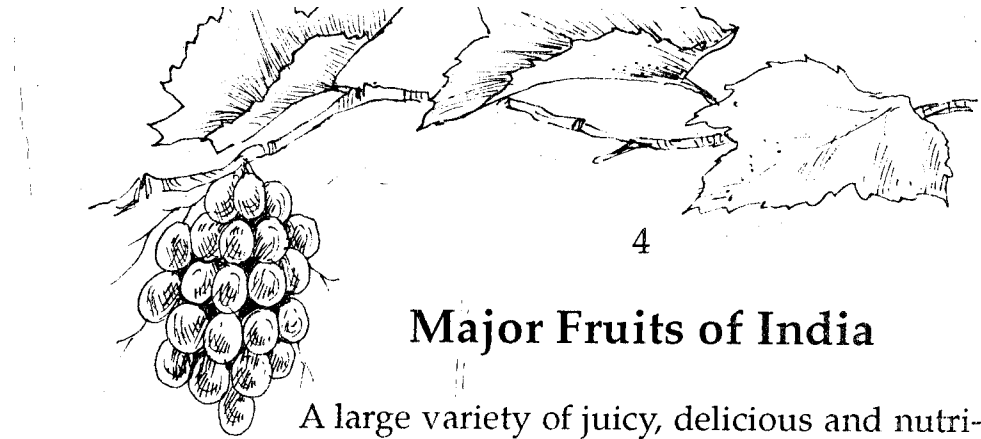
*Amaltas* (Indian abrissum) blossoms just before the beginning of summer. This flower grows in thick light yellow bunches, very alluring for any onlooker.

In this manner, every flower has its own characteristics. A mere handful of flowers decorated in a room or on a table add to the ambience of the room. Nowadays, even foreign flowers are held in great esteem. Some foreign flowers like sweetpea, poppy, cannifer, nasturtium, zinnia, gladiolus, British rose, phlox, etc. are very charming and loved by Indians too.

### 3. Major Flowers of India

↓ J	x	x	↓ S	x	x	x	x	↓ → M						x
	x	x		x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	↓ B	
→ S									x	x	x	x		
	x	x		x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x		
	x	x		x	x	→ M								
	x	→ L				x	x		x	x	x	x	x	
	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	→ L					x	
x	x	↓ C	x	x	x	↓ R	x		x	x	x	x	↓ P	
x	x		x	x	x		x	x	x	x	↓ B	x		
→ N									x	x		x		
x	x		x	x	x		x	x	↓ M	x		x		
x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x		x		x		
x	→ V					x	x	x		x		x		
x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x		x		x		
→ M					x	x	→ A							
x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	
→ O								x	→ T					x
x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	
x	→ T								x	→ J				
x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	

22 Flowers

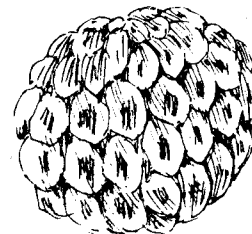
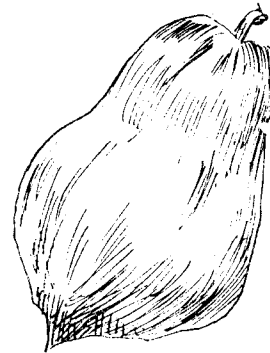


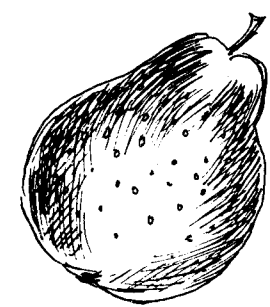
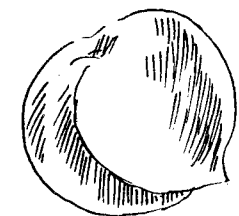
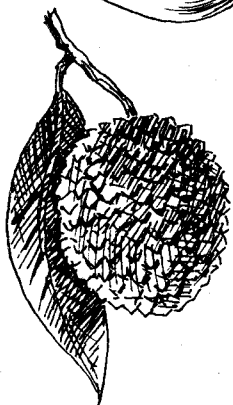
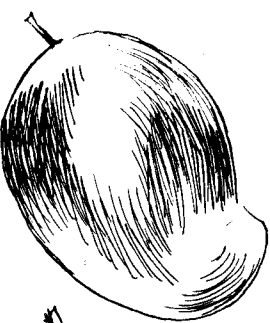
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### Major Fruits of India

A large variety of juicy, delicious and nutritious fruits are cultivated in our country. In ancient times, saints and hermits used to survive only on fruits and foliage. Fruits contain many valuable nutrients which not only nourish our body but help us maintain good health and become physically strong.

According to Ayurveda, sweet pomegranate helps eliminate ills like flatulence, bile and phlegm. Papaya is a digestive fruit and helps in the formation of blood. Grapes are very useful against rheumatism and in loss of appetite. Apple gives energy to the mind and to the veins and arteries. Guava is also very useful, so much so that in some places it is called the 'divine fruit'. In addition to these, lemon, orange, *mosambi*, custard apple, mango, amla, banana, plum, *phalsa*, lichi, mulberry, *locquat*, *bael*, berries, *chikoo* (sapota), pear, *kaseroo*, etc. are other fruits which are useful for our health in many ways.





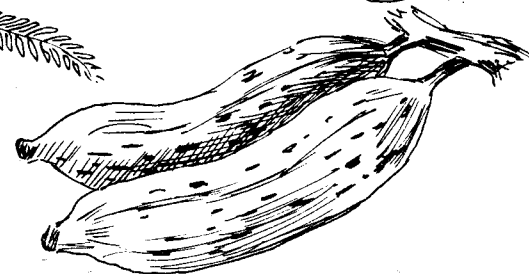
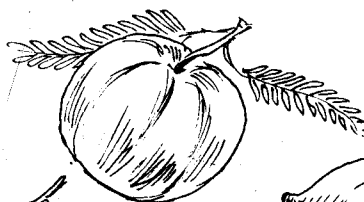
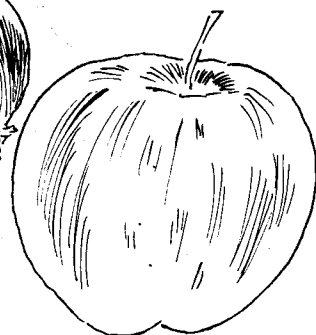
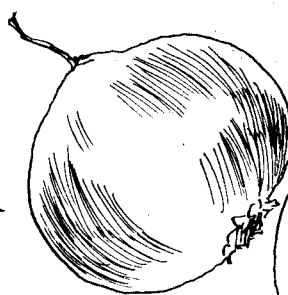
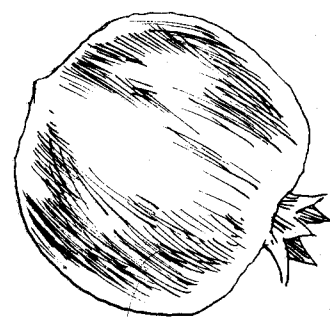
The sugar content in the fruit is beneficial for our intestines. This sugar ensures elimination of all undesirable toxins from our body. In fact, even the peel of the fruit is useful for our health.

Fruits should be eaten in the morning and in the evening. We should always ensure to eat seasonal fruits as they acclimatise our bodies towards prevailing weather conditions.

In summer, fruits like mango, musk-melon, water-melon, bokhara-plum, *phalsa*, rose-berry, lichi, *khirni*, peach, apricot, mulberry, cucumbers, etc. are found in plenty. *Nakh*, pear and grapes appear when the summer is on the decline.

Mango is the most popular fruit of summer. It is referred to as the king of all fruits. It is dear to all, young and old alike. It is said that Rabindranath Tagore was so fond of mangoes that once he remarked in a lighter vein that if he were not to get mangoes to eat in a particular year, then he would treat that year as having gone waste! In our country, there are more than seventy varieties of mango. Due to its distinct qualities, the mango is recognised as the national fruit of India.

Custard apple appears towards the end of the rainy season. Though lemon is available



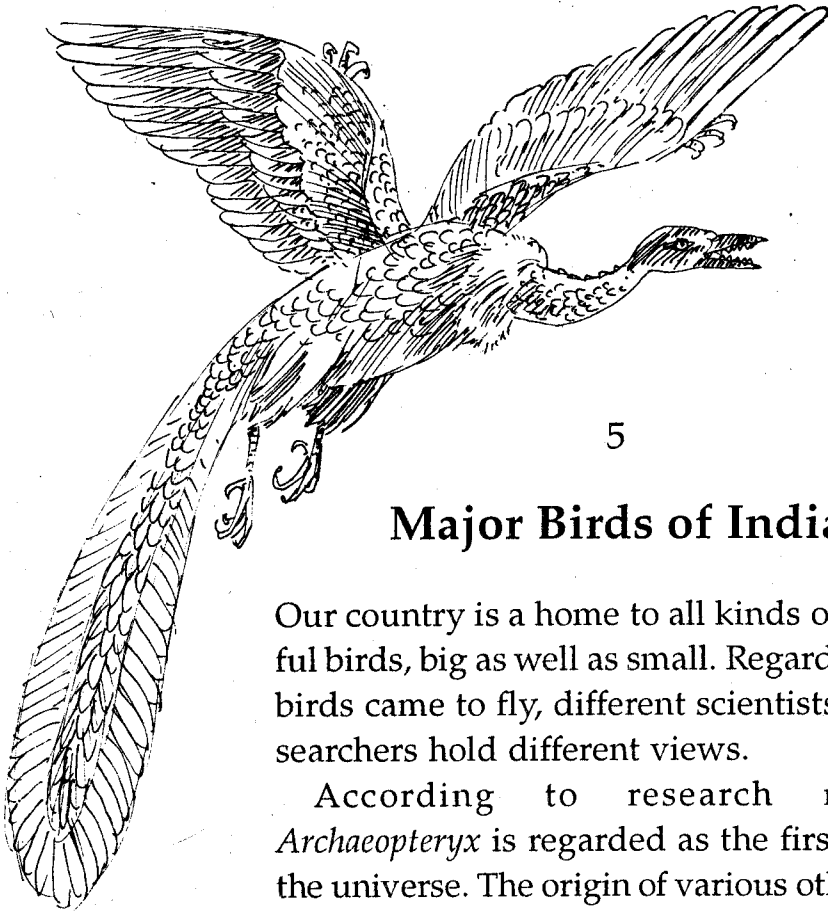
throughout the year, it grows more in winters. The winter prominent fruits are orange, *mosambi*, pomegranate, guava, *amla*, raspberry, fig, citron, plum, apple, etc. Banana or plantain though found all round the year, grows aplenty in winter.

Most of these fruits are preserved in the form of jams, jellies and pickles to eat throughout the year. We should always try to keep the usefulness of the fruits in mind while selecting them.

#### 4. Major Fruits of India

↓→ P						x	x	x	↓ B	x	x	↓ W	x	x
	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	→ D			
→ A			↓ L		x	x	x	x		x	x		x	x
	x	x		x	x	x	→ O						x	x
x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x		x	x		x	↓ B
x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x		x	→ A			
x	x	→ C						x	x	x	x		x	
x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	
→ P		↓ M									x		x	x
x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	↓ A
↓ F	x	→ L							x	↓ M	x	x	x	
	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	
	x		x	x	x	x	x	→ M				↓ M		
x	→ G						x	x	x		x		x	
x	x		x	x	x	x	x	→ L					x	
x	x		x	↓ P	x	x	x	x	x		x		x	
x	x	x	x		x	↓ P	x	x	x		x		x	x
→ G					x		x	x	x		x	x	x	x
x	x	x	x		x		x	x	x		x	x	x	x
x	→ N				x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	→ K					

26 Fruits



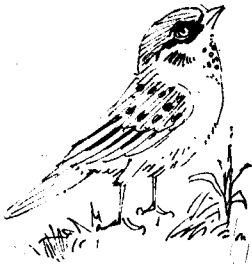
5

#### Major Birds of India

Our country is a home to all kinds of colourful birds, big as well as small. Regarding how birds came to fly, different scientists and researchers hold different views.

According to research reports, *Archaeopteryx* is regarded as the first bird of the universe. The origin of various other birds species is attributed to this bird.

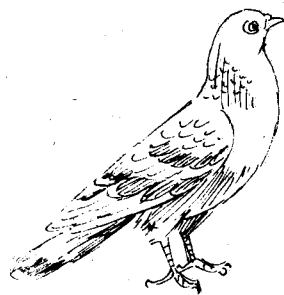
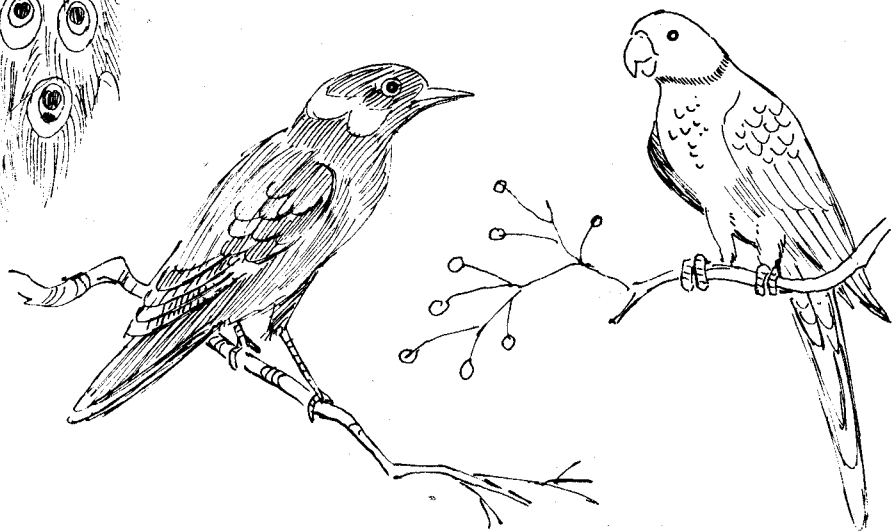
Although literally we use the word ‘bird’ for every creature that flies, we normally refer to the small, brown bird with a white neck, commonly found building nests in our homes as the bird. But, the name of this bird is ‘sparrow’.





The peacock is our national bird. The female is called pea-hen. Generally, it is four feet long. It has a long neck and its chest is dark and bright blue in colour. It is a treat for the eyes when, on seeing the clouds, it begins to dance in delight. Its feathers adorn the coronet of Lord Krishna. The peacock is also known to be the vehicle of Kartikeya, brother of Lord Ganesha.

Mynah, a black bird with a yellow beak, is famous as it can imitate human speech if trained to do so. This holds true for the parrot also. Possibly, this is the reason why many ancient stories refer to the mynah-parrot duo.



The parrot is mostly green. But it is well established that no matter how much love you shower on a parrot, once it escapes from its cage, it will never return.

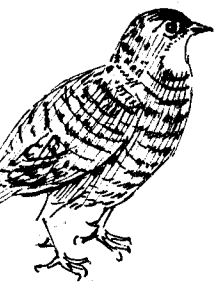
On the other hand, the pigeon, either male or female, will always return. It is said that in ancient times, letters used to be delivered from one place to another through pigeons. They are considered to be the symbols of peace. They are released into the sky as harbingers of peace for the country. They are of various colours. Generally, they live in groups. Their voice sounds as though they are uttering '*gutter goon, gutter goon*'.

A cock has a crest on its head. Normally, at the break of dawn, it crows out '*kukroo koon, kukroo koon*'. In ancient times, when the watch had not been invented, the cock's call was taken as the announcement of the dawn. The female is called hen.



Lapwing is a light brown coloured bird found in the colder regions and near the water sources. The *kronch* is a curly-haired, popular big bird. According to mythology, when one fowler killed the male of a couple, the female's pain-ridden voice so agonised Saint Balmiki that a poem sprang out from his heart. Balmiki is known as a great poet





who wrote the famous epic *Ramayana*.

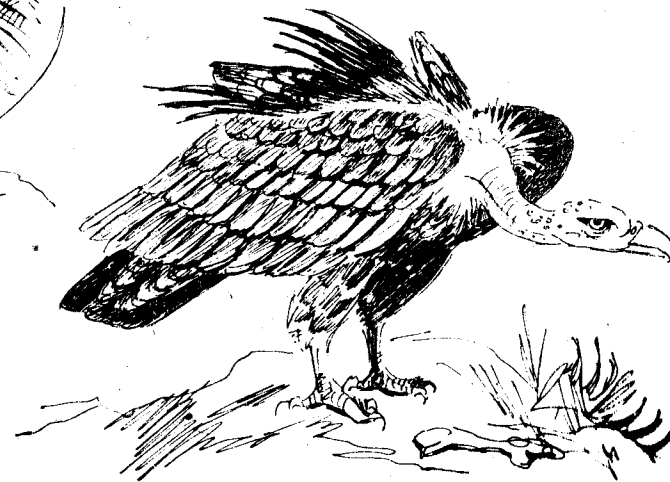
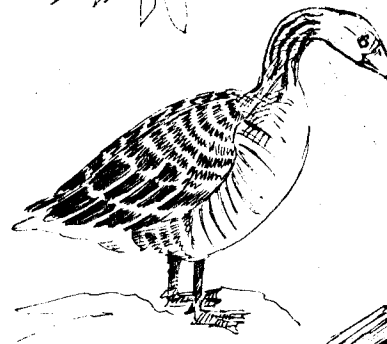
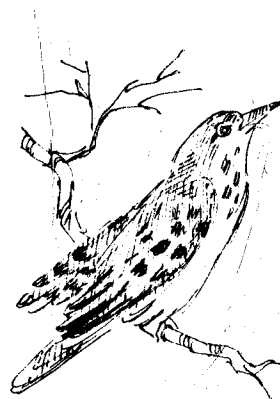
The pheasant is a kind of large partridge. It is found in the hilly regions of Nepal, Punjab and Afghanistan. It is said that this bird loves the moon so much that it keeps staring at it for long at a stretch. It is believed that it can swallow embers.

The partridge belongs to the species of a fowl and a quail and possesses a synthesis of both. Hence the proportion or beauty of its parts is characterised according to the proportion of this synthesis. As a result, we generally associate the saying 'neither a fish nor a fowl' with this bird.

The quail, like the partridge, is a small bird. Some people are fond of arranging fights between quails. The woodpecker, true to its name, keeps pecking on wood or on the trunk of a tree. With its long, pointed beak it keeps digging into the tree trunk to eat the insects exposed.

The pied-cuckoo sings '*pihu, pihu*' during the rainy season. It is said that the only rain drops which fall into its beak during the Swati constellation (*nakshatra*) quench its thirst. It does not drink any other kind of water, even if it were to die.

The magpie's blue neck looks very



beautiful. Sighting of this bird is considered very propitious.

About the skylark pair it is said that they part from each other only during the night.

Eagle, vulture, kite, hawk and falcon are species of the same kind. The eagle is known as the vehicle of Lord Vishnu. Eyes of the vulture and falcon are very sharp. They can sight their prey from a considerable distance. '*Jatayu*', the bird described in the epic *Ramayana*, was in fact a vulture which tried its best to save Sita from being kidnapped by Ravana.



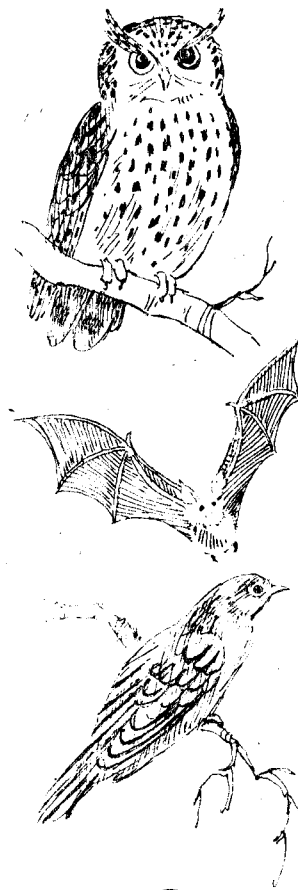
The stork, crane, swan are species of the same kind but differ in their behaviour. The legs, beak and neck of a stork are long while its tail is short. The phrase 'in sheep's clothing' is associated with the stork as overtly it is very naive, whereas in reality it is always on the lookout for a fish.

The crane is also white in colour, but a bright redness glows on its upper part. It takes rounds on the earth before flying straight like an aeroplane. It loves only one mate. It is said that the crane lives only with the female he loves. If either of them die, the other too gives up its life.

The swan is considered a symbol of intelligence. It is said that the swan is entirely white, lives in Mansarovar, picks on pearls, and separates milk from water with its beak.

The owl and the bat can see only during the nights. So they become active only then. The owl is supposed to be the vehicle of Goddess Lakshmi.

The crow and the nightingale are black but the crow is associated with cunningness, whereas the nightingale, for its melodious voice. At the time of flowering of the mango tree, the sweet and melodious refrain of 'kuo, kuo', of the nightingale can be heard. The



dove too is a beautiful bird.

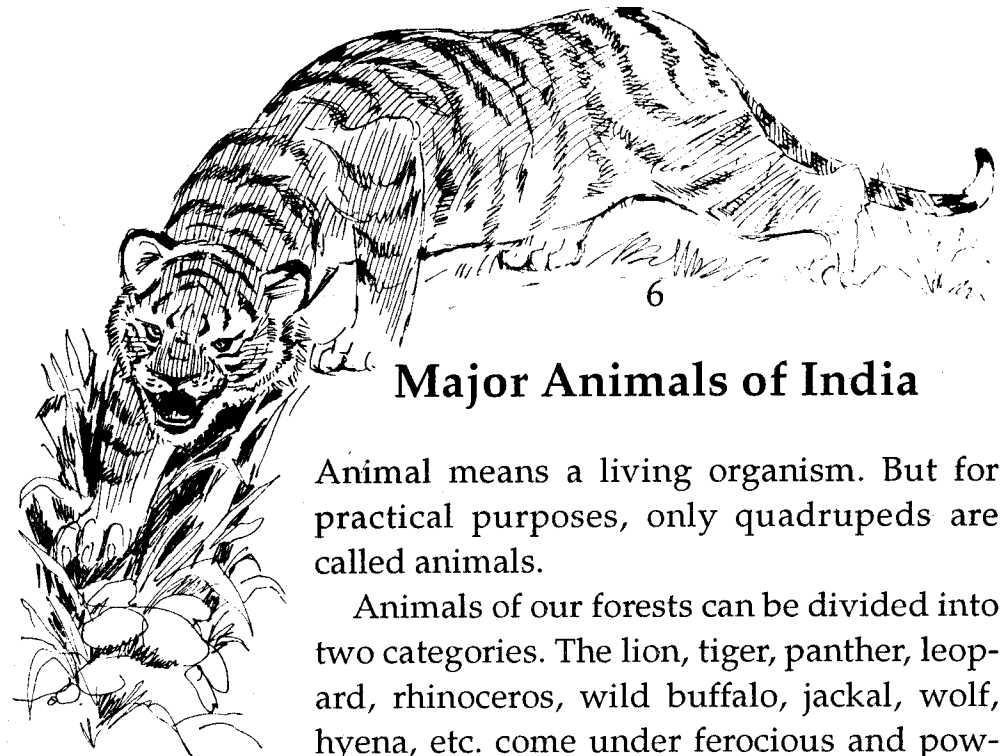
Our ancient story-writers have written many tales based on birds and animals. Prominent among them are the stories of *Panchatantra*, *Aesop's Fables* and the *Jataka* tales. Most of the birds are venerable. They also find an important place in the drawings and paintings.



## 5. Major Birds of India

→ V							↓ E	x	↓ M	x	x	x	↓ P
x	x	x	x	x	x			x		x	x	x	
→ L								x		x	x	x	
x	x	x	x	x	x			x		x	→ B		
x	x	→ C						x		x	x	x	
x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x		x	x	x	
→ P							↓ K	x	x	x	↓ Q	x	
x	x	x	x	x	x		I	x	x	x		x	
↓ P	x	→ N											
	x	x	x	x	x			x	x	x		x	x
	x	x	↓ S	x	x	x	↓ W	x	x		x	x	
	x	x		x	↓ F	x		x	↓ S	x	x	x	
	x	x		x		x		x		x	x	x	
	x	→ C				x		x		x	↓ C	x	
x	x	x		x		x	→ P						
x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x		x		x	
x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x		x		↓ M	
→ K		↓ O				x		x		x	x		
x	x		x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x		
→ F						x		x	x	x	x		
x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		
→ P										x	x	x	

24 Birds



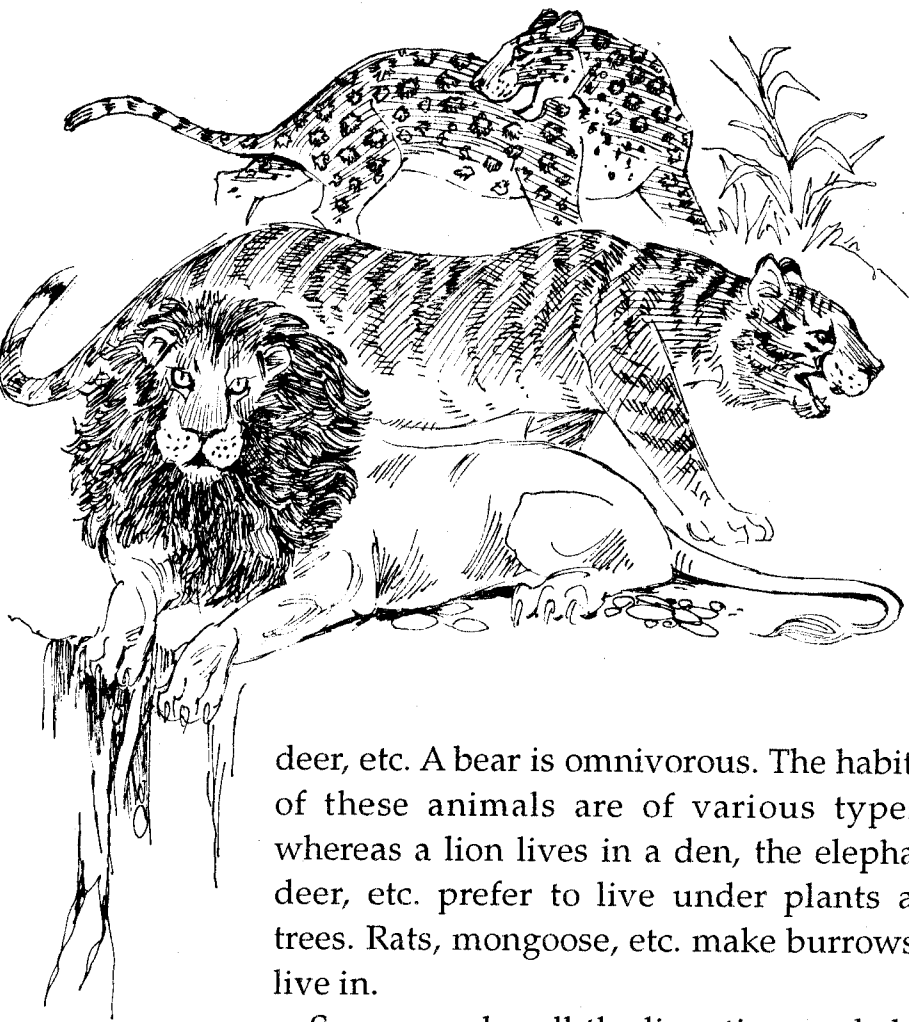
## Major Animals of India

Animal means a living organism. But for practical purposes, only quadrupeds are called animals.

Animals of our forests can be divided into two categories. The lion, tiger, panther, leopard, rhinoceros, wild buffalo, jackal, wolf, hyena, etc. come under ferocious and powerful category. The deer, stag, spotted deer, monkey, ape, rabbit, pig, etc. form the gentle category.

Besides, there are some domestic animals like sheep, cow, buffalo, ox, bull, horse, camel, goat, cat, etc. which live in towns and villages.

Like humans, animals too display different behavioural characteristics. Some animals like to live in groups while some are loners. Likewise, some animals are carnivorous, e.g. lion, fox, wolf, jackal, etc. while others are herbivorous, e.g. elephant, hippopotamus,



deer, etc. A bear is omnivorous. The habitats of these animals are of various types—whereas a lion lives in a den, the elephant, deer, etc. prefer to live under plants and trees. Rats, mongoose, etc. make burrows to live in.

Some people call the lion, tiger and cheetah by the name of 'lion' only. The main reason for this is that all the three belong to one family, i.e. the cat family. But there are plenty of differences among them. The lion, which



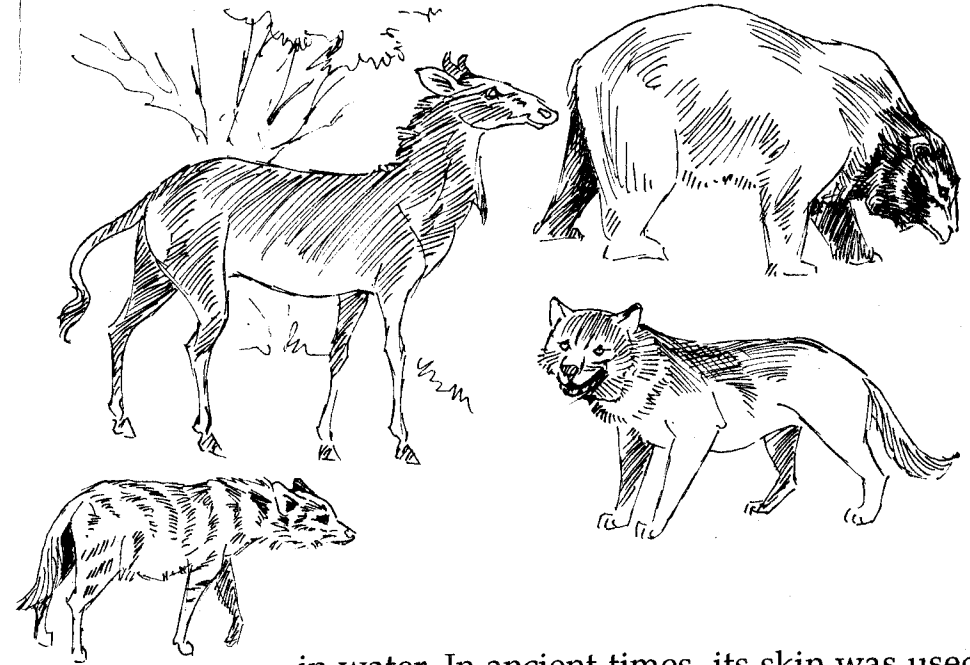
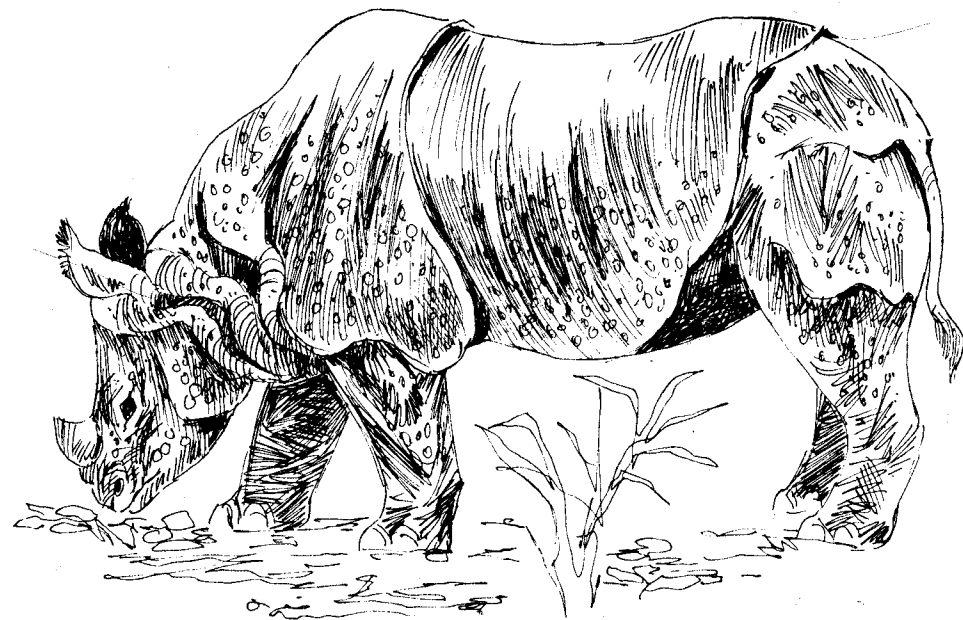
is also known as the 'king of the forest', has long hair on its neck while a cheetah has no hair on its neck. The tiger is a little shorter than the lion with stripes all over the body. The lion is the most valiant, powerful and majestic animal. But they are not found in large numbers in India. On the contrary, tigers are found in very large numbers in the forests of Uttar Pradesh, Jharkhand, Rajasthan, Assam, West Bengal, Madhya Pradesh, Karnataka and Kerala. The tiger is our national animal. The leopard too, of the panther family is an aggressive animal.

The elephant is found in many parts of India. Uttar Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Kerala, and Karnataka are famous for their elephant population. The elephant is a very propitious animal. This may well be the reason why an elephant figures alongside the idol of Goddess Lakshmi. Not only this, the idol of Ganesha is depicted as possessing the head of an elephant. In the olden days, kings and emperors rode elephants to fight in battles. Owning an elephant and riding on it is a symbol of grandeur. An elephant is used for transporting wood also. Many beautiful ornamental things are carved out of the tusk of elephants.

Deer too are of many kinds, like the stag,

the spotted deer, sambhar, antelope, etc., but we refer to all of them as 'deer'. Sambhar is a type of large deer. Spotted deer is very attractive with white spots on its body. A stag has twelve horns. All of them live near a water source in groups. They are hunted for their flesh which is actually against the law. The deer are found mostly in the forests of Uttar Pradesh, Gujarat, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, etc.

The rhinoceros is like a buffalo in shape. It is a well-known herbivorous mammal whose snout juts out a horn or two. It enjoys living



in water. In ancient times, its skin was used to make shields. They are found in Assam in large numbers.

'Nilgai' is similar to a cow in shape, but is light blue-brown in colour. It is found in Uttar Pradesh, Jharkhand, Rajasthan, Andhra Pradesh and Gujarat. The hyena is a ferocious animal and is very fond of human flesh. The wolf and the fox are often seen in forests. Many folk-tales have been written on the wily nature of the fox. The bear is found largely in Uttar Pradesh and professional bear-catchers train the bear to dance before

children to enable them to earn a livelihood.

The difference between a monkey and an ape is that while a monkey has a red face and a short tail, the ape has a black face and a long tale.

The crocodile and the tortoise are aquatic animals. The peculiarity of a tortoise is that when anticipating danger it hides its head inside its shell, thinking that it has become completely safe from danger.

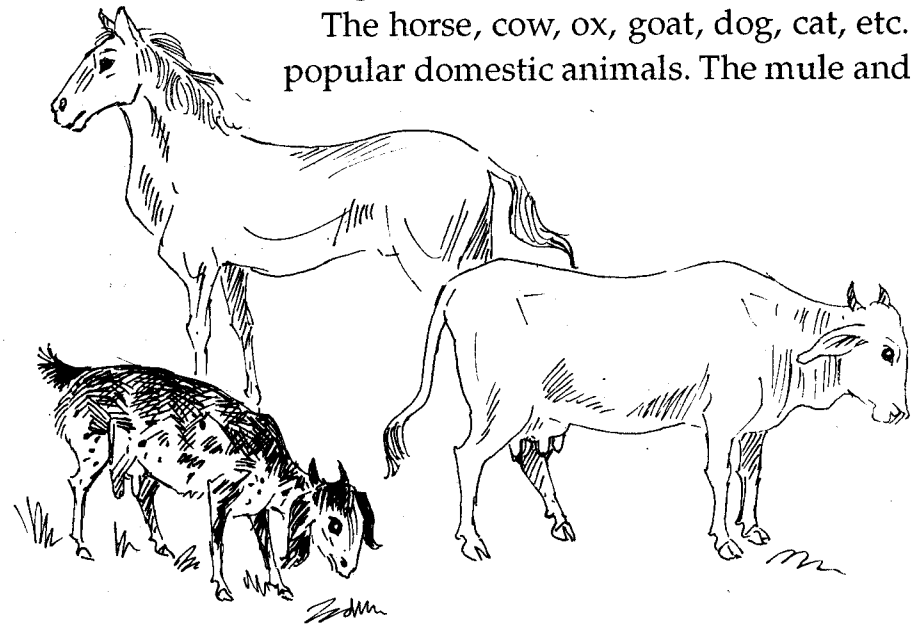
The otter belongs to the mongoose family but is a relatively larger creature. It is amphibious. The mongoose and the snake are bitter enemies. Whenever a fight ensues, we call it a 'snake and mangoose' fight.

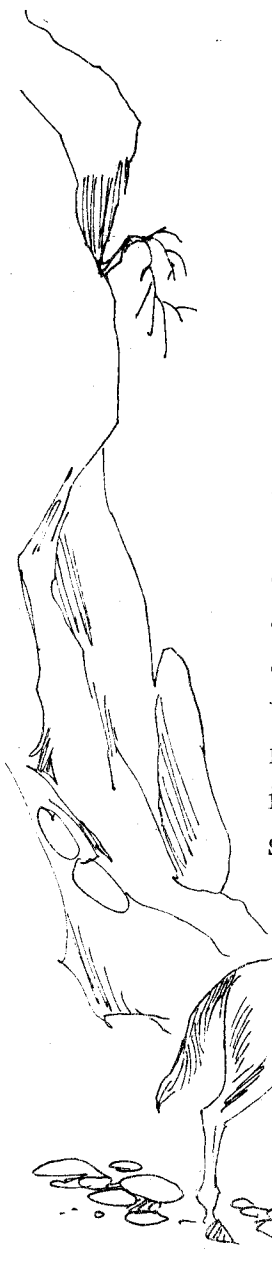
A squirrel can always be seen jumping and scurrying about on branches of trees. It is said that when Lord Rama was building a bridge to reach Lanka, a squirrel helped him in his effort for which Lord Rama patted him on his back. It is also said that Lord Rama's fingerprints can still be seen on its back in the form of long stripes. The mouse and the mongoose live in burrows. The mouse is the vehicle of Lord Ganesha. The *goh*, an iguana, belongs to the lizard family and is a big creature.

Sheep are found largely in forest grasslands. They like to live in groups and blindly follow the group without thinking. There is a famous saying with reference to this trait. When a group of people are compared to sheep, it means that they follow each other blindly without using brains. Sheep skin is very useful and its hair is used to make wool. Its flesh is eaten and considered to be a delicacy.

The camel is known as the 'ship of the desert'. Its most impressive characteristic is its capacity to store food and water in its hump, lasting for a number of days.

The horse, cow, ox, goat, dog, cat, etc. are popular domestic animals. The mule and the





pony have also been domesticated. A mule is an offspring of a male donkey and a female horse, or a male horse and a female donkey. It is mostly used for carrying loads and is therefore known as 'a beast of burden'. A small horse is also called a pony. When a person, unmindful of his honour, rank and wisdom, works for others for the sake of money, he is called a 'pony on hire'. All these animals are well known to us and are of great use in our daily life. They have a mind and a heart. We should therefore treat them well, instead of tormenting them.

The government has set up national parks and sanctuaries for the protection of wild animals in nearly every state. Here, they find a natural habitat. We should visit them to watch these animals roaming in a free environment. This will help develop our interest in them and improve our understanding of such creatures.

## 6. Major Animals of India

→ R	↓ H		↓ N		↓ C		↓ R		↓ S	x	↓ → H			
x		x		x		x		x		x		x	x	x
x		x		x		x		x		x	→ P			x
x		x		x	x	x	x	x		x		x	x	x
x		x		x	x	x	→ T							
x	x	→ L				x	x	x		x		x	x	x
x	x	x	x	x	x	→ A								x
→ J		↓ C			↓ L	x	x	x		x		x	x	x
x	x		x	x		x	↓ M	x	x	x		x	x	x
↓ → B			x	x		x		x	→ C					x
	x	x	x	x	→ P				x	x		x	x	x
→ F			x	x		x		x	x	x	→ S			
	x	x	↓ G	x		x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x
	x	x		x		x		x	x	→ H				
	x	x		x	x	x		x	↓ B	x	x	x	x	x
	x	x		x	↓ D	x	→ E							↓ T
x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x		x	x	x	x	
x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x		x	x	→ D		
x	x	→ M						x	x	x	x	x	x	
x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	→ D			
→ B				x		x	→ M					x	x	x

33 Animals



## Major Mountains of India

Ramdhari Singh Dinkar, a renowned Hindi poet, referred to the Himalayas, as 'father of all mountains, magnificent in appearance and divine in form!' Though the Himalayas in comparison to the other big mountains of the world is the youngest, it is however the highest, the biggest, and the most divine of all the Indian mountains. Being widespread, it acts as a barrier, protecting us from foreign invasions. Besides, the sea-breezes on reaching the Himalayas, shower rains on the whole of north India.

The story of the origin of the mountains is very interesting. As we know, a fire rages in a molten state in the core of the earth. The temperature within is so high that all mineral and chemical matter keeps boiling in a liquid state. Due to rise in pressure, the matter breaks the earth's soft layers and is thrown out with great speed. On coming into contact with air in the outer atmosphere,

the matter accumulates in the form of rocks. These rocks, slowly and gradually, after millions of years of activity, come to take the form of hills and mountains. Not only this, due to eruption of volcanoes and earthquakes, etc., rocks are thrown out of the earth's core and these also acquire the form of hills and valleys.

The Himalayan range is spread over thousands of kilometres. Kanchenjunga, Dhaulagiri, Gauri Shankar, Nanda Devi, etc. are some of the summits in the Himalayas. The highest peak of the Himalayas is the Everest, which is in Nepal. On 29 May 1953, Tensing Norgay, a courageous youth





7. Major Mountains of India

↓ E	x	↓ W	x	↓ V	x	x	↓ S	x	x	x	x	x	↓ K
	x		x		x	x	→ H						
	x		x		x	x		x	x	x	x	x	
	x		x		x	→ E						x	
	x		x		x	x		x	x	x	x	x	
	x		x		x	x		x	→ G				x
	x		x		x	x		x	x	x	x	x	
	x		x		x	x	→ K					x	x
	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	↓ M	x	
	x		x	x	x	x	x	→ K					
	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	
	x		x	↓ K	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	
x	x	x	→ K						x	x		x	x
↓ P	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x		x	↓ A
	x	x	→ P					x	x	x		x	
	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	↓ N	x	x	x	
	x	x	x		x	→ A						x	
	x	x	x		x	x	x	x		x	x	x	
→ N								x		x	x	x	
	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	
	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	→ N					
→ L							x	x	x	x	x	x	x

21 Mountains

Major Rivers of India

A sort of network of rivers is spread all over our country. We Indians consider our rivers holy and revere them. A number of cities sprang up near the banks of these rivers due to the fertile land and easy accessability to water. Many festivals, fairs and ceremonies are associated with them.

In the north and the east flow three rivers—the Indus, the Ganges and the Brahmaputra. Besides these, the Yamuna and the Saraswati also hold special importance for Indians. All five rivers emerge from the Himalayas.

The Indus river, flowing through Jammu and Kashmir, falls into the Arabian Sea near Karachi (now in Pakistan). The five rivers of Punjab called *Panchnad* are—Satluj, Beas, Ravi, Chenab and Jhelum. Varuna is also a small river which merges with the Indus.

The Ganges is often referred to as Bhagirathi. According to our mythology, 60,000 sons of Sagar were cursed by Saint Kapil to be burnt to ash. After the curse, the





Saint suggested that the sons could attain salvation only when water of the Ganges river was sprinkled on them. According to another story, King Bhagirathi went into deep meditation to save his ancestors from the curse and succeeded in bringing River Ganges to the earth. That is why the Ganges came to be called Bhagirathi.

For the Hindus, the Ganges is considered a very holy river. It is said that water from the Ganges remains pure even after years. A number of Hindu pilgrimage centers are situated on the banks of River Ganges.

At Allahabad, the Ganges, the Yamuna and the Saraswati meet and, therefore, a bath at this confluence holds special significance for the Hindus. The Ganges water is clear while the River Yamuna's is a little darker and this is apparent at the confluence. The water from Saraswati is not visible from above, but on

standing at the confluence, its fast-flowing waters can be figured out. It is said that this fast flow is that of River Saraswati only. After its merger, the joint flow that emerges is called River Ganges which falls into the Bay of Bengal. To the left of Ganges flow the other rivers like Ramganga, Gomti, Ghaghra, Gandak, Kosi and Mahanadi.

Emerging from Vindhya hills, the River Chambal merges into the Yamuna near Etawah. Saryu is a famous river of



north India. Ayodhya is situated on the banks of this river. The story of Lord Rama is related with this Ayodhya city. Rama was the King of Ayodhya. Emerging from the Himalayas, River Alaknanda falls into River Ganges near Gangotri.

Brahmaputra is the most important river of eastern India and it also falls into the Bay of Bengal.

River Betwa belongs to Bundelkhand. It flows, meandering like a snake, and is thus called Betwa river.

River Kaveri, emerging from the Brahmagiri hills of Western Ghats, flows through Karnataka and Tamil Nadu before dropping into the Bay of Bengal. Just as River Ganges is important among all the northern rivers and is considered sacred, similar is the position of River Kaveri in the south and is considered equally sacred.

A popular story about the origin of Kaveri is related in the epics. It is said that when the people of the south were reeling under the impact of terror spread by the demons due to non-availability of water, Lord Shiva on the advice of the gods persuaded Saint Agastya to bring an end to the sufferings of the people. It is said that during ancient times, the Kaveri, like the Ganges, used to emerge from the Kailash mountain. At Lord Shiva's behest, the Kaveri

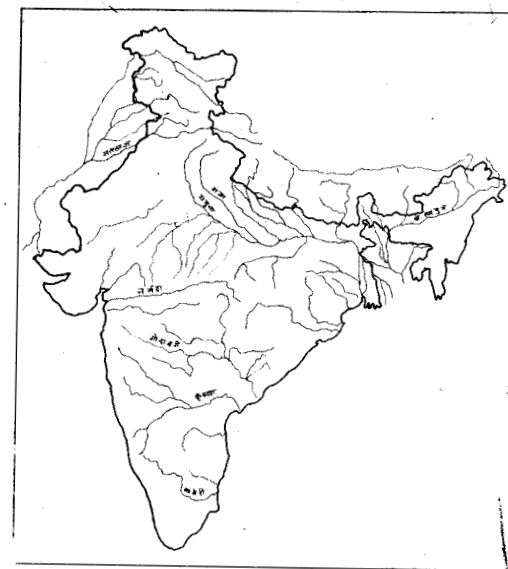
vanished into the *kamandal* (pot) of Saint Agastya, who came to the south and settled there. Kaveri was still in his pot. On the orders of Lord Devraj, Lord Ganesha in the guise of a crow, tumbled the pot over and the Kaveri started flowing. Thus it quenched the thirst of the people living without water. They, thereafter, lead their lives in peace.

River Krishna is also called the 'Krishna Ganga'. It emerges from a spring near Mahabaleshwar and flows through Maharashtra, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh, before flowing into the Bay of Bengal. It is also considered a sacred river. Flowing through the Nasik district of Maharashtra, it falls into the Bay of Bengal towards Andhra Pradesh. Thus, the famous, holy and large rivers like the Ganges, the Brahmaputra, the Godavari, the Krishna, the Kaveri and the Mahanadi fall into the Bay of Bengal.

It is said that River Shipra, on the banks of which the city of Ujjain came up, emerged from a lake called Shipra. It was in this Ujjain city that the famous Indian poet Kalidasa lived.

Both River Sone and River Narmada emerge from Amarkantaka hills of Madhya Pradesh. While the Narmada falls into the Gulf of Khambhat, River Sone flows through Madhya Pradesh and Bundelkhand before merging with the Ganges in Bihar, ten miles north of Danapur. Emerging from the Satpura range and starting from Betul district of Madhya Pradesh, River Tapti falls into the Gulf of Khambhat.

The Damodar is a famous river of Bengal, which, emerges



from the Chhota Nagpur hills before merging into the Bhagirathi. Due to excessive inundation of this river, it is also called the 'river of grief'. But now, dams have been constructed on it. Large deposits of coal are found here. In West Germany too, there is a river called Rhine, where large deposits of coal are found. That is why River Damodar is referred to as the 'Rhine of India'.

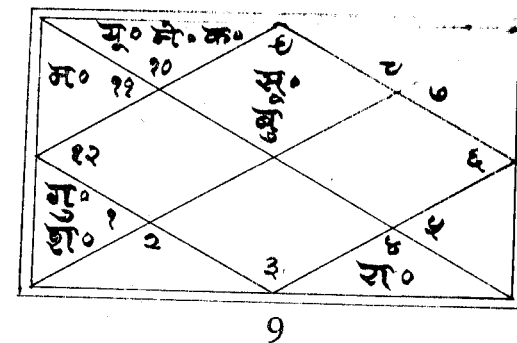
Rivers help in carrying out agriculture, thus enabling man to meet his daily requirements for food. Today their waters are carried to other places by digging out canals and building dams so that water can be diverted to the barren lands and turned fertile. Rivers are used to help generate electricity too. Truly speaking, rivers are life-giving, and perhaps that is why 'water' is called the elixir of life.

## 8. Major Rivers of India

Major Rivers

↓→ B													x	x	x	x	x
	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
→ A										x	→ S						
	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	↓ T	x	x	x
↓→ K								x	x	x	x	↓ C	x			x	↓ R
	x	x	x	x	x	x	↓ N	x	x	→ S							
	x	→ D								x	x		x			x	
	x	x	x	x	x	x			x	→ G						x	
	x	x	x	x	x	x			x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x
	x	x	→ G							x	→ G						
x	x	x	x	x	x	x			x	x	x		x	x	x	x	↓ M
→ C						x			x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	
x	x	x	x	x	x	↓ J	x	x	↓→ G								
x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	
x	x	x	↓→ S					x	x		x	→ B					
↓ K	x	x			x	x		x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	
	x	x			x	x		x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	
	x	x			x	x		x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	
→ I					x	x	→ S										
x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x			x	x	x	x	x	x	x

## 26 Rivers



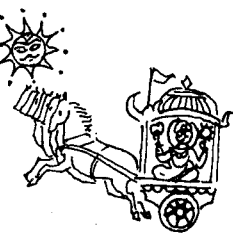
## Planets, Zodiac Signs and Some Major Stars

The science of astrology deals with planets, constellations and galaxies, their relative distance, the number of days they take on their paths of revolution and the types or groups they form.

In the life of Indian people, astrology holds great importance. This is the reason why people who believe in astrology, at the time of the birth of a child, get the horoscope drawn up on the basis of calculations made on the relative position of planets, constellations and the zodiac. They consider it proper to perform every auspicious task according to the calculations made in the horoscope.

The horoscope is made in accordance with the almanac based on Indian astrology. In the English system, dates are taken according to the calendar. But in the Indian system, the



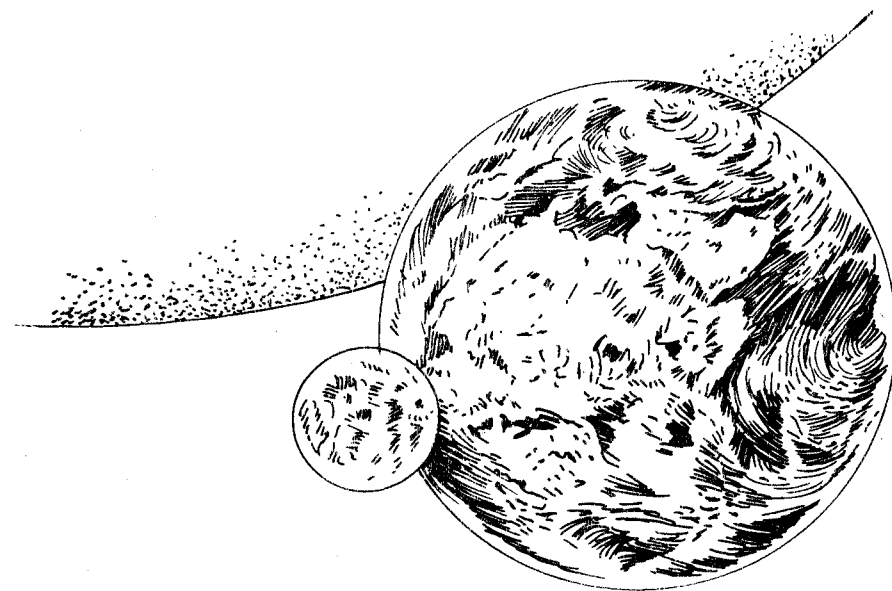


day, the *samvata* and different kinds of calculations are made according to the almanac. In modern times, the almanac is being replaced with the computer. Many astrologers make horoscopes with the help of computers to announce forecasts.

Now, we shall study the planets, constellations and the zodiac signs.

The bodies present in space that are part of a solar system and revolve round the Sun of that system are called planets. They came to be called *griha* in India because they influence the fortune of a person. Nine planets have come to be recognised. These are—the Moon, Mars, Mercury, Jupiter, Venus, Saturn, *Rahu*, *Ketu*, and the Sun.

The Moon revolves around the Earth and



the Earth revolves around the Sun which means that the Earth keeps moving around the Sun. On both the sides of the path of revolution of the Earth up to a distance of  $80^\circ$ , there are about two hundred and twenty-five big stars which appear tiny as they are very far from us. We cannot notice our Earth moving but it does appear as if the Moon and the Sun are moving around us. During the revolution of the Earth, all these above mentioned stars lie in its path. These stars have been categorised into 27 constellations. On the basis of the outline of these 27 constellations, some particular formations are seen. On the basis of these formations, they have been assigned different names. Though only some popular constellations appear in the word-puzzle, 27 are being mentioned here. These are: *Sheratan*, *Bharani*, *Alcyone*, *Aldebaran*, *Mrigasiras*, *Betelgeuse*, *Pollux*, *Pusya*, *Aslesha*, *Regulus*, *Zosma*, *Denebola*, *Hastha*, *Chitra*, *Swati*, *Vishakha*,



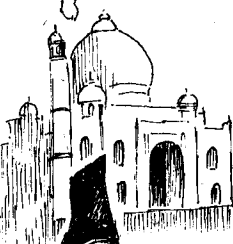
Anuradha, Jyestha, Moolam, Purvasada, Nunki, Altair, Dhanistha, Satabhiraj, Markab, Uttara Bhadrapada and Revati.

The above mentioned stars amidst which the Moon seems to revolve, are the same among which the Sun too is seen moving. Therefore, on the basis of the revolution of the Sun, these stars have been divided into 12 categories called zodiac signs. In every zodiac, generally two or a little more than two constellations appear. On the basis of calculations drawn on these constellations, particular kinds of imaginary figures appear. These imaginary figures are recognised as zodiacs and on the basis of these figures, the 12 zodiac signs have been named, for example, the Libra sign is like a weighing balance, the Capricorn like a crocodile, Scorpio has a scorpion, Leo has a lion, etc. The 12 zodiac signs are—Aries, Taurus, Gemini, Cancer, Leo, Virgo, Libra, Scorpio, Sagittarius, Capricorn, Aquarius and Pisces.

## 9. Planets, Zodiac Signs and Some Major Stars

→ S				↓ P			x	x	x	x	↓ L	x	x	x	x	x
x	x	x	x		x	x	x	→ A	↓ S						x	x
x	x	x	x		x	↓ V	x	x		x		x	x	x	x	x
x	x	x	x	→ C						x	x	x	↓ P	x	x	x
x	x	x	x		x		x	x	→ T						x	x
x	→ J							x		x	x			x	↓ G	x
↓ C	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	↓ V	x		x		x
	x	x	→ M						x	x		x		x		x
	x	↓ A	x	x	x		x	x	x	x		x	x	x		x
	x		x	x	→ M				x	x		x	x	x		x
	x		x	↓ C	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x		x
	x		x		x	x	x	x	x	↓ H	x	x	x	x	x	↓ R
x	x		x		x	x	↓ M	x	x		x	↓ M	x	x	x	
x	x		x		x	x		x	x		x		x	x	x	
x	→ J							x	x		x		x	x	x	
x	x		x		x	x		x	x		x		x	x	x	
x	x	x	x		x	→ P										x
x	x	x	x		x	x		x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x
x	→ M				x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	→ L					
→ V					x	→ P						x	x	x	x	x

27 Planets, Zodiac Signs and Stars



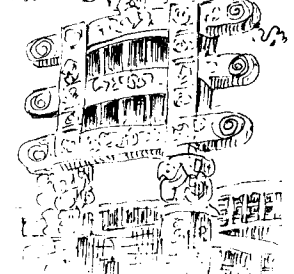
Jammu & Kashmir lie in the extreme north of India. Due to the presence of Himalayas, this state abounds in Nature's bounty and is called a 'Paradise on Earth'. The state is famous for availability of saffron. Some parts of this state are under the occupation of Pakistan and China.

Himachal Pradesh is also situated in the north. Hindi and Pahari languages are spoken here. The apples of this region are very much in demand.

Located in the north, Punjab is primarily an agricultural state with fertile land. Wheat and maize are the prominent crops grown here. Bhangra dance of Punjab is very popular.

Haryana state also lies towards the north of India. The Maruti car factory is situated in the Gurgaon town of this state. Haryana is known for its well-developed industries and agriculture.

Uttar Pradesh forms a big belt between Haryana and Bihar. It has the maximum population compared to the other states. As the holy River Ganga flows through the state, the land here is very fertile. A number of Hindu pilgrimage centres are situated here. The monument Taj Mahal of Agra is famous all over the world.



Bihar lies towards the east. The famous ancient university of Nalanda is situated here. Gaya, which is a prominent religious place of the Buddhists and the industrial city of Jamshedpur form an important part of this state. The Madhubani paintings of the region are very famous.

Sikkim on the extreme north of India is situated on India's borders that touch China, Bhutan and Nepal.

Assam and Arunachal Pradesh are situated in the extreme north-east. River Brahmaputra which flows through Assam is often reported to be flooded. Assam is famous for its tea.

Manipur and Nagaland are also north-eastern states, situated on the borders of India.

Meghalaya and Tripura touch the borders of Bangladesh. Jute is the main crop that is grown in Tripura. Cherrapunji, which reports the heaviest amount of rainfall is located in Meghalaya. The languages spoken in this region are Khasi, Garo and English.

West Bengal is situated along the borders of Bangladesh. Quite some time back West Bengal and Bangladesh formed one large state. But now the latter is a separate country. The famous Howrah Bridge of West Ben-



gal has been built in the form of a swing. The people of this state are known for their contribution to art and literature.

Orissa is located towards the east of India. It is home to the Konark temple and the Jagannath Temple which are tourist centres.

Three new states were carved out in the year 2000, these are Chhattisgarh, Uttaranchal and Jharkhand.

Chhattisgarh has been formed by combining 16 districts of Madhya Pradesh. Here the largest population is of tribals.

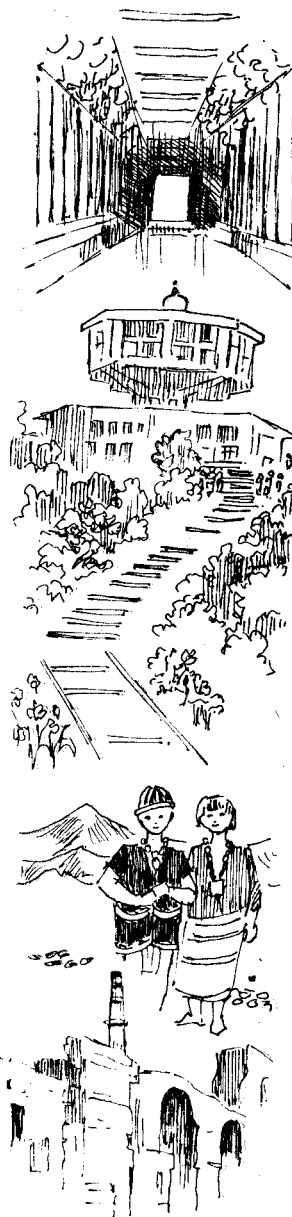
Uttaranchal state has been constituted by joining 13 districts of Uttar Pradesh.

By combining 18 districts of Bihar, Jharkhand state has been constituted. Jharkhand is also known as Vananchal.

Madhya Pradesh lies in the heart or center of India. This is the largest state in size. It has the largest number of milk giving animals. The Gold Rocks and Sanchi Stupa of Jabalpur are very famous tourist spots.

Rajasthan lies on the north-western border of India. Thar Desert of this state is well known. Many tourists come from distant lands to visit its Bharatpur Bird Sanctuary.

Gujarat lies in the western part of India. Mahatma Gandhi was born in the Porbander



town of this state. Wild donkeys of 'Little Inn of Kutch' and the Asiatic lion of Gir National Park are very popular.

Then we come to the coastal state of Maharashtra. Mumbai is the capital of this state and it is a prominent Indian port. It is one of the biggest commercial centres of India.

Andhra Pradesh lies on the south-eastern coast of India. Hyderabad is its capital city and Vishakhapatnam a big port city of this state.

Karnataka lies a little further. The weather here is pleasant throughout the year. The capital city is Bangalore also known as the 'City of Gardens'. The Jog Falls in this state are the highest waterfalls of India. The state owns the renowned Brindaban Gardens as well.

Tamil Nadu is in the extreme south. Its southernmost tip is called Kanyakumari. Here is situated the famous temple of Rameshwaram. Ooty is a beautiful hill station of this state and Chennai is its capital city.

Kerala is primarily a coastal state. It is well known for coconut, cardamoms, pepper, cloves and all kinds of spices. This state has



Delhi is the capital of the whole of India. Delhi has been awarded the status of semi-state also. Though Delhi has its own chief minister and is autonomously governed in most internal matters, still Delhi has not been given full statehood. Even now certain departments are outside its jurisdiction, like Delhi Police, Delhi Development Authority, etc.

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## State Capitals of India

The city of a state, where the chief minister resides permanently along with his ruling government, is called the capital of the state. The capital mostly, is at such a place, from where it is easy to contact and administer the entire state. Due to the presence of the ruling machinery, each capital city of every state has various departments, like Education Department, Urban Development Department, etc.

There are 28 full-fledged states in India. Their capitals are listed below:

<i>State</i>	<i>Capital</i>
1. Andhra Pradesh	Hyderabad
2. Arunachal Pradesh	Itanagar
3. Assam	Dispur
4. Bihar	Patna
5. Chhattisgarh	Raipur
6. Goa	Panaji
7. Gujarat	Gandhinagar
8. Haryana	Chandigarh
9. Himachal Pradesh	Shimla
10. Jammu & Kashmir	Srinagar
11. Jharkhand	Ranchi
12. Karnataka	Bangalore
13. Kerala	Thiruvananthapuram
14. Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal

15. Maharashtra	Mumbai
16. Manipur	Imphal
17. Meghalaya	Shillong
18. Mizoram	Aizwal
19. Nagaland	Kohima
20. Orissa	Bhubaneswar
21. Punjab	Chandigarh
22. Rajasthan	Jaipur
23. Sikkim	Gangtok
24. Tamil Nadu	Chennai
25. Tripura	Agartala
26. Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow
27. Uttaranchal	Dehradun
28. West Bengal	Kolkata

As we have seen, Chandigarh is the capital of both Punjab and Haryana, but their secretariats are separate. Although, Chandigarh by itself is a Union Territory administered by the Centre.

The capitals of semi-states like Delhi and Pondicherry are Delhi and Pondicherry only.

The capitals of five Centre-administered states or Union Territories are:

1. Andaman & Nicobar Islands	Port Blair
2. Chandigarh	Chandigarh
3. Dadra and Nagar Haveli	Silavasa
4. Daman and Diu	Daman
5. Lakshadweep	Kavaratti

In the world-puzzle titled 'State Capitals of India', the capitals of the above mentioned five Centre-administered states have not been included except Chandigarh.

	x	x	↙→ D								x	→ H								x
↓ M	x			x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	↓ K
	x			x	x	→ P					x	x	x	↓ R	x	x	x	x	x	
	x			x	x	x	x	x	x	x	→ C									
→ B											x	x			x	x	x	x	x	
	x			x	x	x	x	x	x	x	→ L								x	x
	x	x		x	x	x	x	↓ K	x	x	x	x			x	x	x	x	x	
x	x	x	→ S							↓ G	x	x			x	x	x	↓ C	x	x
↓ P	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x		x	x	x	→ D						x
→ A							x	x		x		x	x	x	x	x	x		x	↓ G
		x	x	x	x	x	→ B										x		x	x
		x	x	x	x	x	x		x		x	x	x	x	x	x			x	x
		x	x	x	x	x	x		x		x	→ S							x	x
		x	x	x	↓ R	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x
x	x	→ A								x	x	x	x	x	↓ J	x	x	x	x	
x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	
x	→ B						x	→ I							x		x	x	x	x
x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	
x	→ T																			x
x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	

## 26 Capitals

## Major Languages of India

There are four main language-families in India:

- (1) Aryan language-family;
- (2) Dravidian language-family;
- (3) Austro-Asiatic language-family; and
- (4) Tibeto-Burman language-family.

Among the Dravidian languages, Tamil, Telugu, Kannada and Malayalam are the main ones.

The Munda languages of Austro-Asiatic family are spoken in central India, like Khariya and Mundari. But these

languages cannot be considered major languages.

Tibeto-Burman languages are spoken in the north-east of India, where Manipuri is the major language.

Thus India is a land of many languages. These languages in turn have many sub-languages. Twenty-two prominent languages have been included in the Schedule of our Constitution. These are: Asamiya, Bangla, Bodo, Dogri, Gujarati, Hindi, Kannada, Kashmiri, Konkani, Maithili, Malayalam, Manipuri, Marathi, Nepali, Oriya, Punjabi, Sanskrit, Santhali, Sindhi, Tamil, Telugu and Urdu. In addition to these, the Sahitya Akademi of India has recognised English and Rajasthani languages. The Sahitya Akademi gives away awards to the best literatures in all these languages every year.

Hindi is our national language. Though this language is spoken in Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Bihar, Rajasthan, Haryana, Jharkhand, Uttaranchal and Chhattisgarh, etc., people all over India understand it. Saint Vinoba Bhave had once claimed, "I can say with my own experience that by speaking Hindi, I could cover almost every village and every nook and corner of the country." The script of Hindi is written in Devanagari. Vidyapati, Jayasi, Goswami Tulsidas, Surdas are famous poets of Hindi. Out of them, Vidyapati has written mainly in Maithili, Jayasi in Awadhi, Tulsidas in Awadhi and Braj, and Surdas in Braj. Hindi has many sub-languages like Maithili, Rajasthani, Avadhi, Braj, Bhojpuri, Haryanvi, etc. The number of Hindi-speaking people is more than 40 crores.



The Sanskrit language is one of the most ancient languages, not only of India, but of the world. Our *Vedas* have been written in Sanskrit only. This language is a bit difficult; perhaps, that is why it could not become a commonly spoken language. But in religious affairs, ceremonies, weddings, etc. this language is used primarily. Ancient poet Balmiki's *Ramayana* was written in Sanskrit only.

We can identify the language spoken in a state by the name of the state, like Kashmiri with Kashmir, Bangla with Bengal, Gujarati with Gujarat, Marathi with Maharashtra, Asamiya with Assam, Oriya with Orissa and Punjabi with Punjab.

The script of Marathi is like the script of Hindi, i.e. Devanagari script and to some extent that of Gujarati too. The scripts of Asamiya and Bangla languages are also alike. The script of Punjabi is Gurmukhi, though the Arabic-Persian script is also used. Punjabi language has a close resemblance to Hindi-Urdu.

Bangla language has a very sweet resonance. Rabindranath Tagore was a well-known poet and writer in Bangla. He was awarded the most coveted Nobel Prize for Literature.



Urdu speaking people do not inhabit any one state, though this language is spoken in Uttar Pradesh alongside with Hindi. Its script is, however, Arabic-Persian, even if it sounds like Hindi when spoken.

Regarding the languages of the south, Telugu language is spoken in Andhra Pradesh, Tamil in Tamil Nadu, Kannada in Karnataka and Malayalam in Kerala state. A number of Sanskrit words are predominant in Malayalam, Telugu and Kannada. The language of Goa is Konkani.

The Sindhi language belongs to Sindh, which is now in Pakistan. Sindhi speaking people are spread all over India, so the language has been recognised by the Constitution of India. Its script is Arabic-Persian.

English language does not belong to any particular state or area. In the whole country, three to four per cent of the population understands it, and the number of people speaking and writing it is far less—just about one per cent.

As we have seen, about one-hundred-and-fifty languages and sub-languages are spoken here. Despite many languages and different castes, we have a strong unity, as we respect all religions, languages and castes. It is our duty to maintain the spirit of 'unity in diversity' in our country forever.



## 12. Major Languages of India

↓ → K				↓ M				x	→ P							
	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
→ K							x	x	↓ T	x	x	x	↓ B	x	x	
	x	x	x		x	x	x	x		x	x	x		x	x	
	x	x	x		x	x	x	x		x	x	x		x	x	
	x	→ O					x	x		x	x	x		x	x	
x	x	x	x	x	x	x	→ M								↓ M	
x	→ A							x	x	x	x	x		x		
x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	→ B		↓ D		x	x		
→ G								x	x	x		x	↓ H	x		
x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	→ E							
x	x	→ T						x	x	x		x		x		
↓ M	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x		x		x		
	x	→ N						x	x	x	x	x		x		
	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	↓ S	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
	x	→ S								x	x	x	x	x	x	
	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	↓ B	x	x	
	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	→ U				
	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x		x	x	
x	x	x	→ S								x	x		x	x	

24 Languages

## Major Musical Instruments of India



There are three branches of music—song, music and dance. Here, we shall deal only with the musical instruments.

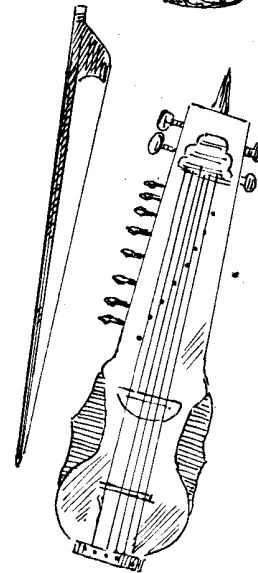
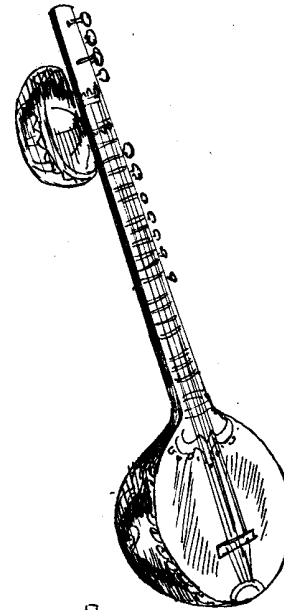
In the Indian society, four types of musical instruments are found—(1) stringed musical instruments, (2) wind musical instruments, (3) strapped musical instruments, and (4) solid musical instruments.

### Stringed Instruments

Stringed instruments are those which have strings and music originates through vibrations of these strings, e.g. lute, *sitar*, *sarod*, guitar, *santoor*, tambourine, *dilruba* (violin),

etc. In some other instruments, to produce an echo, many additional strings are arranged in a series below the main strings—these are called *tarabs*.

*Lute*—Out of all the stringed instruments, lute is the most ancient musical instrument of India. This is considered as the instrument of Goddess Saraswati, the goddess of learning. For this reason, whenever an idol of Saraswati is made,



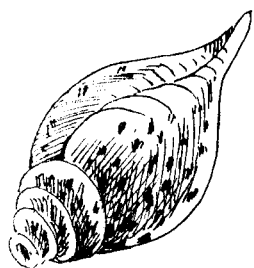
a lute is invariably placed in her hands. At cultural gatherings and in the beginning of cultural programmes, *Veenavadini var dei* (thou who plays the lute, bless us), is often sung as an invocation. From the north to the south, the lute has many names, but Saraswati's lute is considered to be the ultimate one. *Rudra veena* and *vichitra veena* are also very famous. The lute is played at times with the fingers and at other times with a small piece of wood.

*Sitar*—In *sitar*, Pandit Ravi Shankar and Vilayat Khan are popular names. Pandit Ravi Shankar has made *sitar* popular in foreign countries too. The hulls of the *sitar* are made of pumpkins. A ring-like wire, *mijrab* is worn on the finger when playing the instrument.

*Sarangi*—The strings of *sarangi* are pressed with a bow. The *sarangi* player Ram Narayan is very famous and adept at playing this instrument.

*Santoor*—It is a musical instrument essentially of the Kashmir valley. It is played with the help of two sticks, bent on the top. Shiv Kumar Sharma is an eminent name in *santoor* recital.

*Tānpura*—It is a developed version of its original form known as *tanboori*. It is played



normally as accompaniment when singing vocally.

*Dilruba*—It is called *Israj* also. *Dilruba* is a cross between a *sitar* and *sarangi*. It is played with the help of a bow-like instrument and is very popular in Bengal.

### Wind Instruments

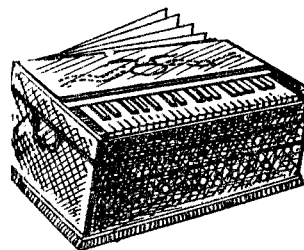
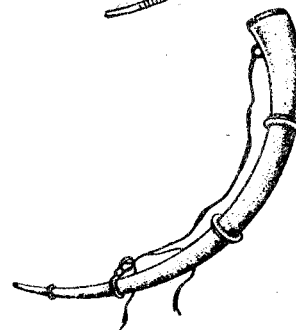
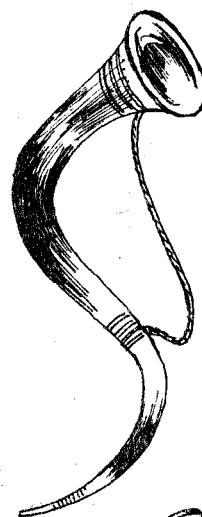
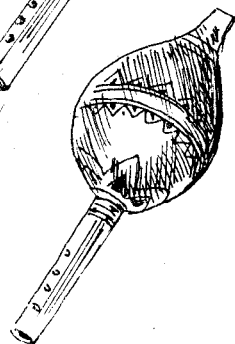
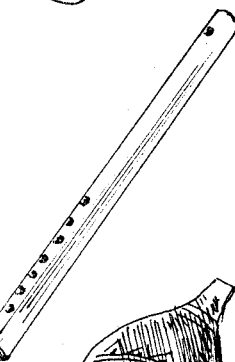
Wind instruments are those instruments which are played by blowing into, or by air, e.g. *shehnai*, clarinet, conch, horn, bugle, harmonium, flute, *been*, etc.

*Conch*—It is an ancient musical instrument, which was played loudly to announce the beginning of a battle. Now-a-days, the conch is used during religious festivals, folk music and dance performances, etc. The conch of Krishna is called *panchajanya*.

*Shehnai*—This instrument is played primarily during auspicious and happy occasions. Bismillah Khan is a renowned *shehnai* player. Another instrument like the *shehnai* is the *hapheri* which is usually played in conjunction with *shehnai*.

*Flute*—We are all well aware of Krishna's flute. It is usually made of bamboo. Hari Prasad Chaurasiya is a famous flute player.

*Been*—Snake-charmers make snakes dance



by playing on this instrument. It is mainly made out of dried gourd. It is known as *pungi* or *mahudi*. The popular musical instrument called *tarpo* of Gujarat and Maharashtra is also like a *been*.

*Blowhorn*—This is an old type of musical instrument played by blowing. Children often keep blowing it. But these days the instrument which is played in factories to announce time is called a blowhorn. The one used in motor-vehicles is called a horn.

*Bugle (Turhi)*—This is an ancient musical instrument. Different classes of society call it by different names.

*Harmonium*—When its black and white keys are pressed, air is pushed in, and musical sounds form when the air is released. This popular instrument is played as an accompaniment during vocal recitals or used as a part of an orchestra.

### Strapped Musical Instruments

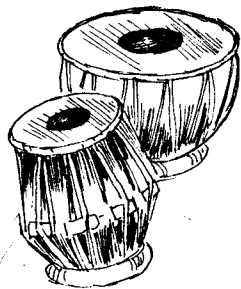
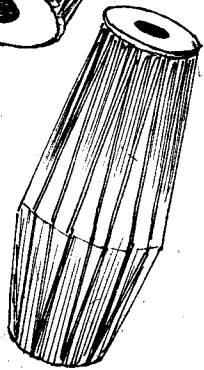
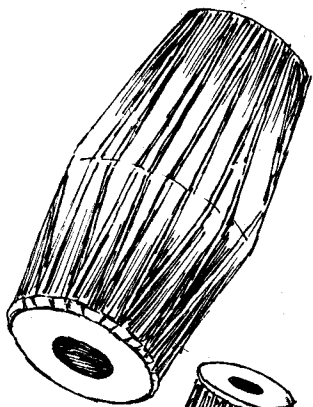
Strapped musical instruments are those which are fastened with something or are covered. The face of such instruments is normally covered with leather and they are played by beating the leather with hands or with a stick.

*Dhol, dholak, dholaki, dhak* (drums)—They are double-faced single type of hollow, sound instruments with some minor differences. *Dhol* or *dhak* is bigger while *dholak-dholaki* is smaller. During weddings, women mostly use the *dholak* or *dholaki* while singing songs. *Nal* is also like a *dholak* only.

*Mridang* (Tabor)—This musical instrument which is called the *mridang* in north is referred to as the *pakhavaj* in the south. In the *mridang* and *pakhavaj*, there is no major difference. Generally, the *mridang* is bigger while the *pakhavaj* is smaller. The *khol* of Bengal is also like a *mridang* with some minor differences.

*Tabla*—Pot-like in shape and hollow musical instruments are the *tabla*, *nagara*, *nakkara*, *duggi*, *dundubhi*, *dukhar*, *kundi*, *tumatum*, etc. But in today's music the *tabla* has acquired great eminence. Two *tablas* are always played in unison. The one played with the right hand is called the *tabla* while the one played with the left is called *dugga*. Among *tabla* players, Allah Rakkha and his son Zakir Hussain are well-known names.

*Takka* (tinkle)—*Takka* is also called *toukli*. *Takka* and *bheri* are big drums. *Bheri* was once used in the battlefields.



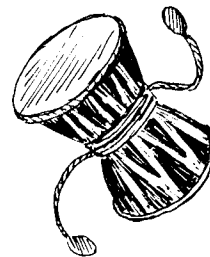
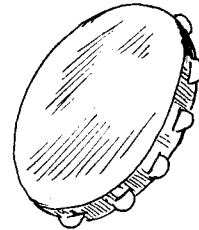
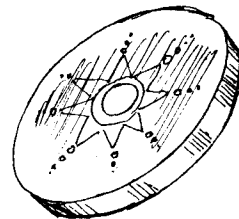
*Duggi (tasha, dhuff, dufli)*—These are drums with differences. They are usually hung round the neck, and played with both hands or with small, straight sticks.

*Khanjari*—The *khanjari* of Uttar Pradesh is called *khanjira* in the south. Discs attached to its sides produce a musical sound.

*Chung* (Jew's harp)—This is a musical instrument played mostly in Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan.

*Damru* (a small drum)—This was Lord Shiva's favourite instrument. A juggler makes a monkey dance by beating the *damru*.

*Ghumat*—This is the main musical instrument of Goan folk-music.

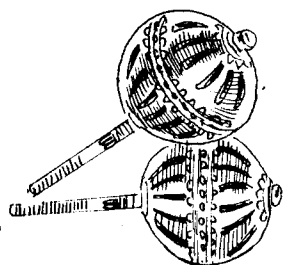
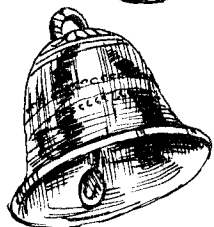
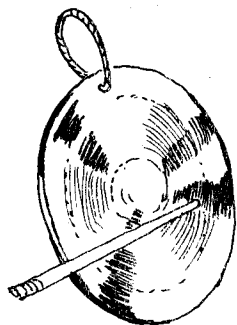
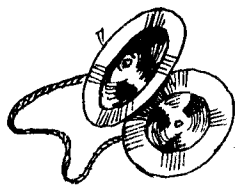


### Solid Musical Instruments

These instruments are made of metal or wood, and are played by striking blows on them. The blows that are struck, are also of many styles. These can be divided into three categories:

1. Those instruments which are played by striking them against each other, like the *manjiras*, cymbals (*jhanjh*), tongs (*chimta*), clap (*kartal*), *dandiya*, etc. By striking two sticks together the *dandiya* dance is performed. The *dandiya* dance of Gujarat is very popular.





2. Instruments which are played often with the help of a hammer, stick, or sometimes with the hands or other objects are the *ghanta* (clock), *ghariyal* (gong), *jaltarang* (harmonica), *thali* (plate), *lota* (pot), *ghat* (pitcher), etc. *Thali*, *lota*, *ghanta* and *ghariyal* are played while worshipping the gods. *Jaltarang* is a very melodious instrument, in which pots of clay are filled with water and the player strikes with a stick on the corners of these pots to produce a sweet rippling sound.

The *ghutam* of south India is known as *ghat* or *ghara* in north. While playing it, the *ghat* is so placed that its open end touches the belly of the player. It is played by striking with both the hands, wrists, ten fingers, nails or rings worn on the fingers.

3. This category includes those instruments which are played by shaking, like the *ghungroos* (ankle bells), *ghanti* (bells), *jhunjhuna* (rattle), etc. In the rattle, mostly pebbles are filled up.

Though there are many more musical instruments in India, we have discussed only the main instruments here.

### 13. Major Musical Instruments of India

↓ → T								x	x	↓ B	x	x	↓ L	x	↓ M
	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x		x	
	x	→ C										x		x	
	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x		x	
x	→ S								x	x	x	x	x	x	
x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	→ C						
→ M								x	x	x	x	x	x	x	
x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	→ V						
x	x	x	→ D		↓ M			x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
x	x	↓ T	x	x			x	x	x	x	→ C				↓ H
x	x		x	x	→ N			x	x	x	x	x	x	x	
x	x		x	x			x	x	x	→ G					
↓ B	x		x	x			x	x	↓ G	x	x	x	x	x	
	x		x	x			x	x		x	x	x	x	x	
	x	x	x	→ S								x	x	x	
	x	x	x	x	x	x	x			x	x	x	x	x	
	x	x	↓ S	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	↓ F	x	
x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	→ B					x	
→ S								x	x	x	x	x		x	x
x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x
x	→ S						x	→ P							x

27 Musical Instruments

# Solutions to Word Puzzles

## 1. Major Plants of India

x	↓	→	P	I	G	E	O	N	P	E	A	x	x	x	↓	B	x	↓	S
x	R	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	E	x	U		
x	I	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	→	B	A	↓	S	I	L	x	G		
x	→	C	O	T	T	O	N	x	x	x	x	A	x	L	x	A			
x	K	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	F	x	A	x	R				
x	→	L	I	N	S	E	E	D	x	x	x	F	x	D	x	C			
x	Y	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	R	x	O	x	A				
x	A	x	x	x	x	→	F	L	E	X	x	O	x	N	x	N			
x	→	M	I	N	T	x	x	x	x	x	N	x	A	x	E				
x	A	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x			
x	R	x	↓	M	x	x	x	↓	T	x	x	x	x	↓	P	x	↓	C	
x	N	x	Y	x	x	x	O	x	x	x	↓	B	x	A	x	A			
x	A	x	S	x	x	x	→	M	U	S	T	A	R	D	x	S			
x	T	x	T	x	↓	M	x	A	x	x	x	R	x	D	x	T			
→	C	H	I	L	L	I	x	T	x	x	x	L	x	Y	x	O			
x	x	x	E	x	L	x	O	x	↓	W	x	E	x	x	x	R			
x	x	x	x	x	L	x	x	x	H	x	Y	x	↓	G	x	x			
x	x	→	J	U	T	E	x	x	x	E	x	x	x	R	x	x			
x	x	x	x	x	T	x	→	U	R	A	D	B	E	A	N	x			
x	→	P	E	A	S	x	x	x	x	T	x	x	x	M	x	x			

23 Plants

## 2. Major Trees of India

x	→	B	A	N	Y	A	N	x	x	x	x	↓	S
x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	A	
→	P	A	L	M	x	x	x	x	x	↓	M	x	N
x	x	x	x	→	T	A	M	↓	A	R	I	N	D
x	x	↓	S	x	x	x	x	S	x	M	x	A	
x	→	P	I	P	A	L	x	O	x	O	x	L	
↓	A	x	S	x	x	x	x	K	x	S	x	W	
C	x	A	x	x	x	x	A	x	A	x	O		
A	x	M	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	O		
S	x	x	x	→	P	I	N	E	W	O	O	D	
I	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	
A	x	→	D	A	T	E	x	x	→	T	E	A	↓
x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	A		
→	S	I	L	K	↓	C	O	T	T	O	N	x	I
x	x	x	x	O	x	x	x	x	x	x	L		
x	x	x	x	→	C	Y	P	R	E	S	S	x	
x	x	x	x	O	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		
x	x	x	x	N	x	x	→	C	E	D	A	R	
x	x	x	x	U	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	
→	P	L	A	N	T	A	I	N	x	x	x	x	

18 Trees

### 3. Major Flowers of India

↓	J	x	x	↓	S	x	x	x	x	↓→	M	A	H	U	A	x
A	x	x	E	x	x	x	x	A	x	x	x	x	x	x	↓	B
→	S	U	N	F	L	O	W	E	R	x	x	x	x	x	E	
M	x	x	A	x	x	x	x	I	x	x	x	x	x	x	L	
I	x	x	L	x	x	→	M	A	G	N	O	L	I	A		
N	x	→	L	I	L	Y	x	x	O	x	x	x	x	x		
E	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	→	L	O	T	U	S	x		
x	x	↓	C	x	x	x	↓	R	x	D	x	x	x	x	↓	P
x	x	H	x	x	x	O	x	x	x	x	↓	B	x	A		
→	N	A	R	C	I	S	S	U	S	x	x	L	x	N		
x	x	Y	x	x	x	E	x	x	↓	M	x	U	x	D		
x	x	S	x	x	x	x	x	x	O	x	E	x	A			
x	→	V	A	K	U	L	x	x	x	G	x	L	x	N		
x	x	N	x	x	x	x	x	x	R	x	O	x	U			
→	M	O	T	I	A	x	x	→	A	M	A	L	T	A	S	
x	x	H	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	U	x	x		
→	O	L	E	A	N	D	E	R	x	→	T	E	S	U	x	
x	x	M	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		
x	→	T	U	B	E	R	O	S	E	x	→	J	U	H	I	
x	x	M	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		

22 Flowers

### 4. Major Fruits of India

↓→	P	A	P	A	Y	A	x	x	x	↓	B	x	x	↓	W	x	x
E	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	A	x	→	D	A	T	E	
→	A	P	P	↓	L	E	x	x	x	N	x	x	T	x	x		
R	x	x	I	x	x	x	→	O	R	A	N	G	E	x	x		
x	x	x	C	x	x	x	x	x	N	x	x	R	x	↓	B		
x	x	x	H	x	x	x	x	x	A	x	→	A	M	L	A		
x	x	→	C	I	T	R	O	N	x	x	x	x	E	x	E		
x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	L	x	L		
→	P	O	↓	M	E	G	R	A	N	A	T	E	x	O	x	x	
x	x	U	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	N	x	↓	A	
↓	F	x	→	L	O	C	Q	U	A	T	x	↓	M	x	x	x	P
I	x	B	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	U	x	x	x	R			
G	x	E	x	x	x	x	x	→	M	O	S	A	↓	M	B	I	
x	→	G	R	A	P	E	S	x	x	x	K	x	A	x	C		
x	x	R	x	x	x	x	x	→	L	E	M	O	N	x	O		
x	x	Y	x	↓	P	x	x	x	x	E	x	G	x	T			
x	x	x	x	E	x	↓	P	x	x	x	L	x	O	x	x		
→	G	U	A	V	A	x	L	x	x	x	O	x	x	x	x		
x	x	x	x	C	x	U	x	x	x	N	x	x	x	x			
x	→	N	A	K	H	x	M	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		
x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	→	K	H	I	R	N	I	

26 Fruits

## 5. Major Birds of India

→V	U	L	T	U	R	E	x	↓M	x	x	x	↓P
x	x	x	x	x	x	A	x	A	x	x	x	A
→L	A	P	W	I	N	G	x	G	x	x	x	R
x	x	x	x	x	x	L	x	P	x	→B	A	T
x	x	→C	R	A	N	E	x	I	x	x	x	R
x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	E	x	x	x	I
→P	E	A	C	O	C	↓K	x	x	x	↓Q	x	D
x	x	x	x	x	x	I	x	x	x	U	x	G
↓P	x	→N	I	G	H	T	I	N	G	A	L	E
I	x	x	x	x	x	E	x	x	x	I	x	x
G	x	x	↓S	x	x	x	↓W	x	x	L	x	x
E	x	x	T	x	↓F	x	O	x	↓S	x	x	x
O	x	x	O	x	O	x	O	x	P	x	x	x
N	x	→C	R	O	W	x	D	x	A	x	↓C	x
x	x	x	K	x	L	x	→P	A	R	R	O	T
x	x	x	x	x	x	x	E	x	R	x	C	x
x	x	x	x	x	x	x	C	x	O	x	K	↓M
→K	R	↓O	N	C	H	x	K	x	W	x	x	Y
x	x	W	x	x	x	x	E	x	x	x	x	N
→F	A	L	C	O	N	x	R	x	x	x	x	A
x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	H
→P	I	E	D	C	U	C	K	O	O	x	x	x

24 Birds

## 6. Major Animals of India

→R	↓H	I	↓N	O	↓C	E	↓R	O	↓S	x	↓→H	A	R	E
x	Y	x	I	x	O	x	A	x	Q	x	I	x	x	x
x	E	x	L	x	W	x	T	x	U	x	→P	I	G	x
x	N	x	G	x	x	x	x	x	I	x	P	x	x	x
x	A	x	A	x	x	x	→T	O	R	T	O	I	S	E
x	x	→L	I	O	N	x	x	x	R	x	P	x	x	x
x	x	x	x	x	x	→A	N	T	E	L	O	P	E	x
→J	A	↓C	K	A	↓L	x	x	x	L	x	T	x	x	x
x	x	A	x	x	E	x	↓M	x	x	x	A	x	x	x
↓→B	A	T	x	x	O	x	O	x	→C	A	M	E	L	x
U	x	x	x	x	→P	O	N	Y	x	x	U	x	x	x
→F	O	X	x	x	A	x	G	x	x	x	→S	T	A	G
F	x	x	↓G	x	R	x	O	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
A	x	x	O	x	D	x	O	x	x	→H	O	R	S	E
L	x	x	A	x	x	x	S	x	↓B	x	x	x	x	x
O	x	x	T	x	↓D	x	→E	L	E	P	H	A	N	↓T
x	x	x	x	x	O	x	x	x	A	x	x	x	x	I
x	x	x	x	x	N	x	x	x	R	x	x	→D	O	G
x	x	→M	O	N	K	E	Y	x	x	x	x	x	x	E
x	x	x	x	x	E	x	x	x	x	x	→D	E	E	R
→B	U	L	L	x	Y	x	→M	U	L	E	x	x	x	x

33 Animals

## 7. Major Mountains of India

↓	E	x	W	x	↓	V	x	x	↓	S	x	x	x	x	x	x	↓	K
A	x	E	x	I	x	x	→	H	I	M	A	L	A	Y	A			
S	x	S	x	N	x	x	I	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	N			
T	x	T	x	D	x	→	E	V	E	R	E	S	T	x	C			
E	x	E	x	H	x	x	A	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	H			
R	x	R	x	Y	x	x	L	x	→	G	A	R	O	x	E			
N	x	N	x	A	x	x	I	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	N			
G	x	G	x	N	x	x	→	K	H	A	S	I	x	x	J			
H	x	H	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	↓	M	x	U		
A	x	A	x	x	x	x	x	x	→	K	U	M	A	O	N			
T	x	T	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	H	x	G			
S	x	S	x	↓	K	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	A	x	A			
x	x	x	→	K	A	I	L	A	S	H	x	x	D	x	x			
↓	P	x	x	x	R	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	E	x	↓	A		
I	x	x	→	P	A	M	I	R	x	x	x	x	O	x	N			
R	x	x	x	K	x	x	x	x	x	↓	N	x	x	x	A			
P	x	x	x	O	x	→	A	R	A	V	A	L	I	x	M			
A	x	x	x	R	x	x	x	x	x	G	x	x	x	A				
→	N	A	N	D	A	D	E	V	I	x	A	x	x	x	L			
J	x	x	x	M	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	A			
A	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	→	N	I	L	G	I	R	I			
→	L	A	D	D	A	K	H	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x			

21 Mountains

## 8. Major Rivers of India

↓	→	B	R	A	H	M	A	P	U	T	R	A	x	x	x	x	x		
E		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		
→	A	L	A	K	N	A	N	D	A	x	→	S	A	T	L	U	J		
S		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		
x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	↓	T	x	x		
→	K	R	I	S	H	N	A	x	x	x	x	↓	C	x	A	x	↓	R	
A	x	x	x	x	x	x	↓	N	x	x	→	S	H	I	P	R	A		
V	x	→	D	A	M	O	D	A	R	x	x	A	x	T	x	V			
E	x	x	x	x	x	x	R	x	→	G	O	M	T	I	x	I			
R	x	x	x	x	x	x	M	x	x	x	B	x	x	x	x				
I	x	x	→	G	A	N	D	A	K	x	→	G	A	N	G	E	S		
x	x	x	x	x	x	x	D	x	x	x	L	x	x	x	x				
→	C	H	E	N	A	B	x	A	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	↓	M		
x	x	x	x	x	x	x	↓	J	x	x	↓	→	G	H	A	G	H	R	A
x	x	x	x	x	x	H	x	x	O	x	x	x	x	x	x	H			
x	x	x	→	S	O	N	E	x	x	D	x	→	B	E	T	W	A		
↓	K	x	x	A	x	x	L	x	x	A	x	x	x	x	x	N			
O	x	x	R	x	x	U	x	x	V	x	x	x	x	x	x	A			
S	x	x	Y	x	x	M	x	x	A	x	x	x	x	x	x	D			
→	I	N	D	U	S	x	x	→	S	A	R	A	S	W	A	T	I		
x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	I	x	x	x	x	x	x	x			

26 Rivers

## 9. Planets, Zodiac Signs and Some Major Stars

→	S	C	O	R	↓	P	I	O	x	x	x	x	↓	L	x	x	x	x	x
x	x	x	x	x	I	x	x	x	→	A	↓	S	L	E	S	H	A	x	x
x	x	x	x	S	x	↓	V	x	x	W	x	O	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
x	x	x	x	→	C	H	I	T	R	A	x	x	x	↓	P	x	x	x	x
x	x	x	x	E	x	S	x	x	→	T	A	U	R	U	S	x	x	x	x
x	→	J	Y	E	S	T	H	A	x	I	x	x	x	S	x	↓	G	x	x
↓	C	x	x	x	x	x	A	x	x	x	x	↓	V	x	Y	x	E	x	x
A	x	x	→	M	A	R	K	A	B	x	x	E	x	A	x	M	x	x	x
N	x	↓	A	x	x	x	H	x	x	x	x	N	x	x	x	I	x	x	x
C	x	Q	x	x	→	M	A	R	S	x	x	U	x	x	x	N	x	x	x
E	x	U	x	↓	C	x	x	x	x	x	x	S	x	x	x	I	x	x	x
R	x	A	x	A	x	x	x	x	x	↓	H	x	x	x	x	x	↓	R	x
x	x	R	x	P	x	x	↓	M	x	x	A	x	↓	M	x	x	x	E	x
x	x	I	x	R	x	x	E	x	x	S	x	O	x	x	x	x	V	x	x
x	→	J	U	P	I	T	E	R	x	x	T	x	O	x	x	x	A	x	x
x	x	S	x	C	x	x	C	x	x	H	x	L	x	x	x	T	x	x	x
x	x	x	x	O	x	→	P	U	R	V	A	S	A	D	A	x	I	x	x
x	x	x	x	R	x	x	R	x	x	x	x	M	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
x	→	M	O	O	N	x	x	Y	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	→	L	I	B	R	A	x	x
→	V	I	R	G	O	x	→	P	O	L	L	U	X	x	x	x	x	x	x

27 Planets, Zodiac Signs and Stars

## 10. The States of India

↓→	T	R	I	↓	P	U	R	A	x	→	P	U	N	↓	J	A	B	x	→	B	I	H	A	R
A	x	x	O	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	H	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
M	x	x	N	x	↓	A	x	x	x	x	→	R	A	J	A	S	T	H	A	N	x	x	x	x
I	x	x	D	x	R	x	x	x	x	↓	M	x	R	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
L	x	x	I	x	U	x	x	x	x	E	x	→	K	E	R	A	L	A	x	x	x	x	x	x
N	x	x	C	x	N	x	x	x	x	G	x	H	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
A	x	x	H	x	A	x	x	→	C	H	H	A	T	T	I	S	G	A	R	H	x	x	x	x
D	x	x	E	x	C	x	x	x	A	x	N	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
U	x	x	R	x	H	x	↓	G	x	L	x	→	D	E	L	H	I	x	↓	S	x	x	x	x
x	x	x	R	x	A	x	U	x	A	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	I	x	↓	M	x	x
↓	U	x	x	Y	x	L	x	J	x	Y	x	x	x	x	↓	K	x	x	K	x	A	x	x	x
T	x	x	x	x	x	x	A	x	→	A	N	D	H	R	A	x	x	K	x	D	x	x	x	x
T	x	x	↓	H	x	↓	N	x	R	x	x	x	x	x	R	x	x	I	x	H	x	x	x	x
A	x	→	M	A	H	A	R	A	S	H	T	R	A	x	N	x	x	M	x	Y	x	x	x	x
R	x	x	R	x	G	x	T	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	A	x	x	x	x	A	x	x	x	x
P	x	x	Y	x	A	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	T	x	x	↓	H	x	P	x	x	x
R	x	x	A	x	L	x	↓	A	x	→	M	I	Z	O	R	A	M	x	I	x	R	x	x	x
A	x	x	N	x	A	x	S	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	K	x	x	M	x	A	x	x	x	x
D	x	x	A	x	N	x	S	x	→	O	R	I	S	S	A	x	x	A	x	D	x	x	x	x
E	x	x	x	x	D	x	A	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	C	x	E	x	x	x	x
S	x	↓	G	x	x	x	x	→	M	A	N	I	P	U	R	x	x	x	H	x	S	x	x	x
H	x	O	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	A	x	H	x	x	x	x
x	→	J	A	M	M	U	&	K	A	S	H	M	I	R	x	x	x	L	x	x	x	x	x	x

28 States/UTs

## 11. State Capitals of India

x	x	↓→	D	E	H	R	A	D	U	N	x	→	H	Y	D	E	R	A	B	A	D	x	
↓	M	x	I	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	↓	K
U	x	S	x	x	→	P	A	T	N	A	x	x	x	↓	R	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	O
M	x	P	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	→	C	H	A	N	D	I	G	A	R	H	
→	B	H	U	B	A	N	E	S	W	A	R	x	x	N	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	I
A	x	R	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	→	L	U	C	K	N	O	W	x	x	M	
I	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	↓	K	x	x	x	x	H	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	A	
x	x	x	→	S	H	I	L	L	O	N	↓	G	x	x	I	x	x	x	↓	C	x	x	x
↓	P	x	x	x	x	x	x	L	x	A	x	x	x	→	D	E	L	H	I	x	x		
→	A	I	Z	W	A	L	x	x	K	x	N	x	x	x	x	x	x	E	x	x	x	↓	G
N	x	x	x	x	x	x	→	B	A	N	G	A	L	O	R	E	x	N	x	x	x	A	
A	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	T	x	T	x	x	x	x	x	x	N	x	x	N			
J	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	A	x	O	x	→	S	H	I	M	L	A	x	x	D		
I	x	x	x	↓	R	x	x	x	x	x	K	x	x	x	x	x	x	I	x	x	H		
x	x	→	A	G	A	R	T	A	L	A	x	x	x	x	x	↓	J	x	x	x	x	I	
x	x	x	x	I	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	A	x	x	x	x	N			
x	→	B	H	O	P	A	L	x	→	I	M	P	H	A	L	x	I	x	x	x	x	A	
x	x	x	x	U	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	P	x	x	x	x	G			
x	→	T	H	I	R	U	V	A	N	A	N	T	H	A	P	U	R	A	M	x	A		
x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	R	x	x	x	x	R			

26 Capitals

## 12. Major Languages of India

↓→	K	A	S	H	↓	M	I	R	I	x	→	P	U	N	J	A	B	I					
O	x	x	x	A	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x					
N	x	x	x	R	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x					
→	K	A	N	N	A	D	A	x	x	↓	T	x	x	x	↓	B	x	x					
A	x	x	x	T	x	x	x	x	A	x	x	x	A	x	x	A	x	x					
N	x	x	x	H	x	x	x	x	M	x	x	x	N	x	x	N	x	x					
I	x	→	O	R	I	Y	A	x	x	I	x	x	x	G	x	x							
x	x	x	x	x	x	x	→	M	A	L	A	Y	A	L	A	↓	M						
x	→	A	S	A	M	I	Y	A	x	x	x	x	x	A	x	A							
x	x	x	x	x	x	x	N	x	→	B	O	↓	D	O	x	x	I						
→	G	U	J	A	R	A	T	I	x	x	x	O	x	↓	H	x	T						
x	x	x	x	x	x	x	P	x	→	E	N	G	L	I	S	H							
x	x	→	T	E	L	U	G	U	x	x	x	R	x	N	x	I							
↓	M	x	x	x	x	x	R	x	x	x	I	x	D	x	L								
U	x	→	N	E	P	A	L	I	x	x	x	x	I	x	I								
N	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	↓	S	x	x	x	x	x	x							
↓	O	x	→	S	A	N	T	H	A	L	I	x	x	x	x	x							
A	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	N	x	x	x	↓	B	x	x							
P	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	D	x	x	→	U	R	D	U							
I	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	H	x	x	x	A	x	x								
x	x	x	→	S	A	N	S	K	R	I	T	x	x	J	x	x							

24 Languages

### 13. Major Musical Instruments of India

↓→	T	A	N	P	U	R	A	x	x	↓	B	x	x	↓	L	x	↓	M
O	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	E	x	x	U	x	A			
N	x	→	C	L	A	R	I	O	N	E	T	x	T	x	N			
G	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	N	x	x	E	x	D			
x	→	S	A	R	A	N	G	I	x	x	x	x	x	x	O			
x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	→	C	Y	M	B	A	L		
→	M	R	I	D	A	N	G	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	I		
x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	→	V	I	O	L	I	N		
x	x	x	→	D	A	↓	M	R	U	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		
x	x	↓	T	x	x	A	x	x	x	x	→	C	O	N	C	↓	H	
x	x	A	x	x	→	N	A	L	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	A		
x	x	B	x	x	J	x	x	x	→	G	U	I	T	A	R			
↓	B	x	L	x	x	I	x	x	↓	G	x	x	x	E	x	M		
U	x	A	x	x	R	x	x	O	x	x	x	x	x	x	O			
G	x	x	x	→	S	A	R	A	N	G	I	x	x	x	N			
L	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	G	x	x	x	x	x	x	I			
E	x	x	↓	S	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	↓	F	x	U		
x	x	x	I	x	x	x	x	x	→	B	E	L	L	x	M			
→	S	A	N	T	O	O	R	x	x	x	x	x	U	x	x			
x	x	x	A	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	T	x	x			
x	→	S	A	R	O	↓	P	I	T	C	H	E	R	x				

27 Musical Instruments